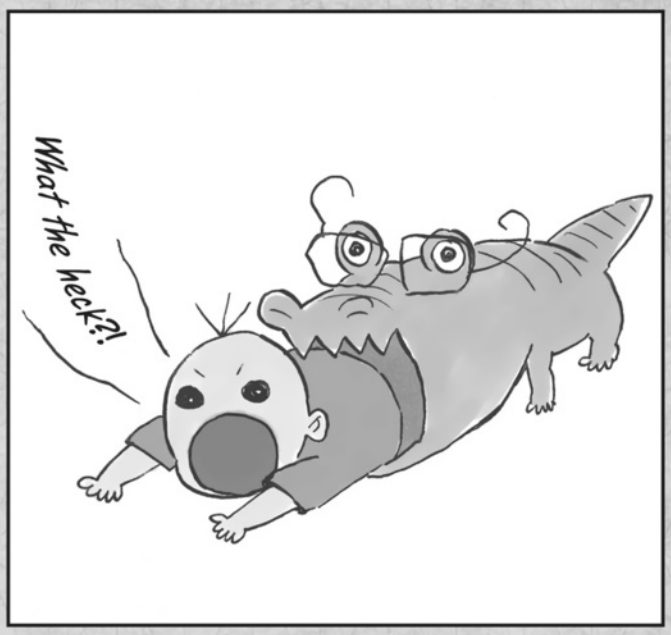
16
DEMON SLAYER
KIMETSU NO YAIBA
Story and Art by
KOYOHARU GOTOUGE



KOYOHARU GOTOUGE

I'm Gotouge. Volume 16 is out! The story begins moving in a big way. Thank you to everyone who encourages me. I hear from people who say they have recommended the series to acquaintances and those acquaintances got absorbed in it. That makes me happy. Like an alligator, once I bite, I never let go. It also appears some people have begun reading the manga after seeing the anime—I'm grateful for your interest as well. I'll do my best to make it even more interesting, so I hope you keep reading.

DEMON SLAYER:
KIMETSU NO YAIBA
VOLUME 16
Shonen Jump Edition

Story and Art by
KOYOHARU GOTOUGE

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DEMON SLAYER: KIMETSU NO YAIBA is rated T for Teen and recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

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DEMON SLAYER

KIMETSU NO YAIBA

16

UNDYING

KOYOHARU GOTOUGE

CHARACTERS

TANJIRO KAMADO

A kind boy who saved his sister and now aims to avenge his family. He can smell the scent of demons and an opponent's weakness.

NEZUKO KAMADO

Tanjiro's younger sister. A demon attacked her and turned her into a demon. But unlike other demons, she fights her urges and tries to protect Tanjiro.

GYOMEI HIMEJIMA

Stone Hashira in the Demon Slayer Corps. He is always clasping a rosary and reciting a Buddhist prayer

INOSUKE HASHIBIRA

He also went through Final Selection at the same time as Tanjiro. He wears the pelt of a wild boar and is very belligerent.

ZENITSU AGATSUMA

He went through Final Selection at the same time as Tanjiro. He's usually cowardly, but when he falls asleep, his true power comes out.

GIYU TOMIOKA

The Hashira who invited Tanjiro to join the Demon Slayer Corps. He has always cared about Tanjiro.

MITSURI KANROJI

Love Hashira in the Demon Slayer Corps. She joined the Demon Slayer Corps to find a man to marry.

GENYA SHINAZUGAWA

He went through Final Selection at the same time as Tanjiro. His older brother is Sanemi, the Wind Hashira. He meets Tanjiro again in the village of swordsmiths.

MUZAN KIBUTSUJI

Kibutsuji turned Nezuko into a demon. He is Tanjiro's enemy and hides his nature in order to live among human beings.

KAGAYA UBUYASHIKI

The leader of the Demon Slayer Corps who seeks to defeat Muzan Kibutsuji. His body is weak, but he is very charismatic.

STORY

In Taisho-era Japan, young Tanjiro makes a living selling charcoal. One day, demons kill his family and turn his younger sister Nezuko into a demon. Tanjiro and Nezuko set out to find a way to return Nezuko to human form and defeat Kibutsuji, the demon who killed their family!

After joining the Demon Slayer Corps, Tanjiro meets Tamayo and Yushiro—demons who oppose Kibutsuji—who provide a clue to how Nezuko may be turned back into a human. After an intense fight against the upper-rank demons Hantengu and Gyokko, who attacked the village of swordsmiths, Nezuko is finally able to withstand the light from the sun.

Meanwhile the Demon Slayer Corps begins training their members to become the new Hashira and attempts to cause the existing Hashira to manifest the Mark. Tanjiro goes to see Himejima, the Stone Hashira, but can he handle the intense training regimen?!

CONTENTS

Chapter 134
REPETITIVE MOTION
7

Chapter 135
HIMEJIMA HELL
27

Chapter 136
MOVING
47

Chapter 137
UNDYING
67

Chapter 138
A SUDDEN TURN
87

Chapter 139
FALLING
107

Chapter 140
THE FINAL BATTLE BEGINS
127

Chapter 141
VENGEANCE
151

Chapter 142
SHINOBU KOCHO
THE INSECT HASHIRA
171

DEMON SLAYER
KIMETSU NO YAIBA

16

UNDYING

CHAPTER 134: REPETITIVE ACTION

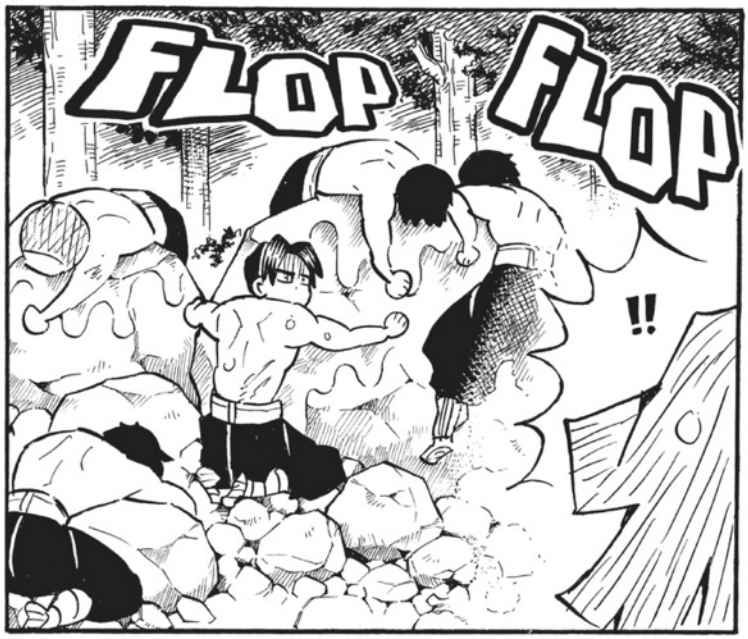
FIRST, YOU WILL TRAIN UNDER THE WATERFALL.
I'M GONNA DIE!
SOOO

RATTLE
KLIK
RATTLE
MY TRAINING CONSISTS OF THESE THREE SIMPLE THINGS.
BURNING YOU WITH FIRE FROM BELOW IS DANGEROUS, SO I WILL NOT REQUIRE IT.

SORRY, ZENITSU PASSED OUT.
FLOP
THROW HIM IN THE RIVER.

GYAAAH!
THAT'S C-COLD !!

WHOA! MY GUTS ARE IN DANGER!! THEY'RE CRYING OUT!
LAND... L-LAND!
ZENITSU!
IT'S COLDER THAN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER! I COULD DIE!!
THEY'RE SAYING THEY'LL DIE!!
WHAT'S WITH THIS MOUNTAIN-RIVER WATER?! IT'S ABNORMAL! I'M GONNA DIE!! I'M GONNA PUKE!


FLOP FLOP
!!

IT...IT'S NO USE! EVEN OUT OF THE WATER, IT'S TOO LATE!!
SHIVER SHIVER
HYAEE!
HYAEEE!
I'M GONNA FREEZE TO DEATH!!

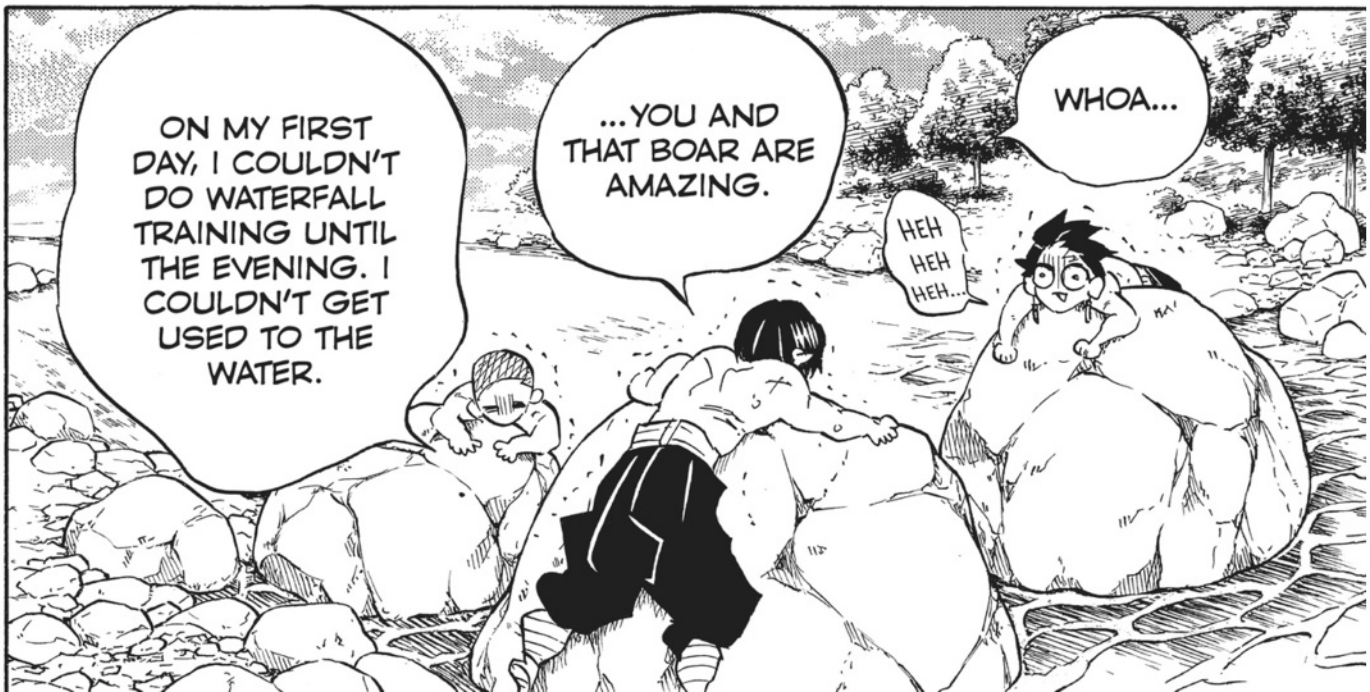
SPLOT

THEY'RE WARM.
PRESS AGAINST THE ROCKS...

Waaah! Momma!
ROCK
IT'S LIKE MY MOTHER HOLDING ME IN HER ARMS!
THEY'RE... WARM!! ROCKS ARE THIS WARM?!
SPSH
INOSUKE IS DOING HIS BEST, SO I SHOULD TOO.
HM? I DON'T HEAR THE NENBUTSU CHANT ANYMORE!
THIS IS HARD. WATER-FALL TRAINING IS HARSH.
BRR
BRR, THAT'S COLD.
BRR
AGH! OH NO, NO!!
TINNG
HUH?
INOSUKE ?!
INO—

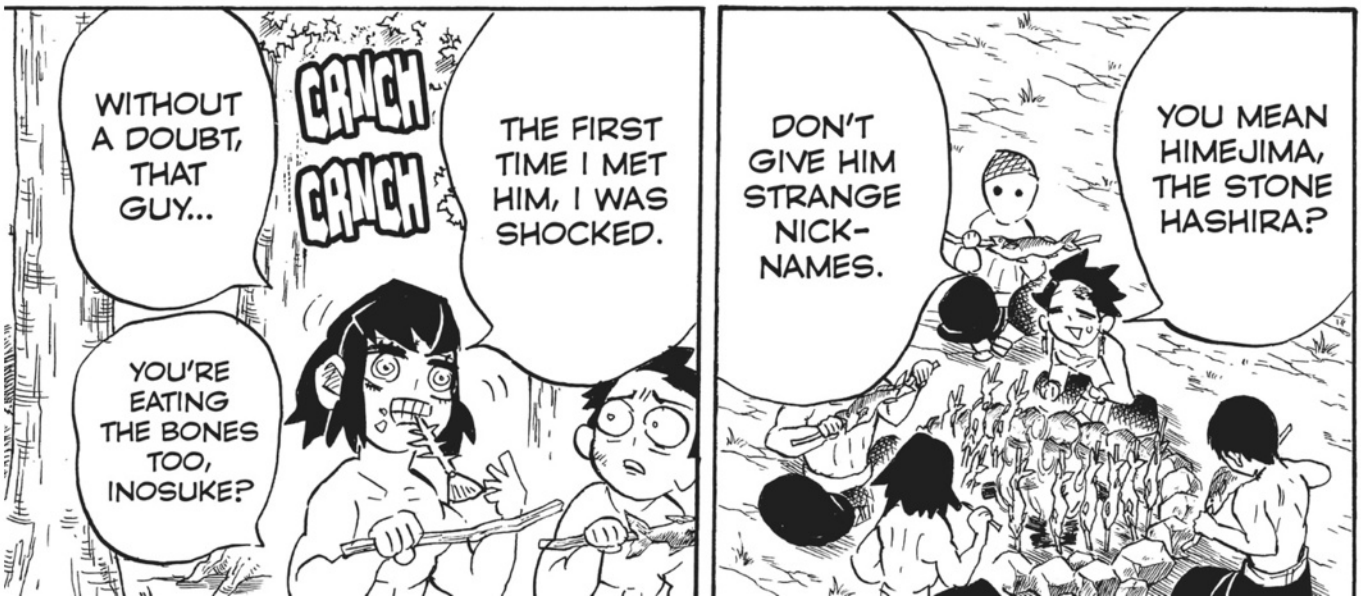
SHHH
YOU CHANT THE NENBUTSU TO CONCENTRATE...
...AND TO SHOW THAT YOU ARE STILL CONSCIOUS.
WHP WHP WHP
...I SUBJECTED MYSELF TO THE WATERFALL.
AFTER I BROUGHT INOSUKE BACK TO LIFE...
INOSUKE!

WATER HAS A LOT OF FORCE. IF I DIDN'T TENSE UP, I FEEL LIKE IT WOULD HAVE BROKEN MY NECK.
CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER
JUST GETTING HIT BY THE WATERFALL IS REALLY HARD.

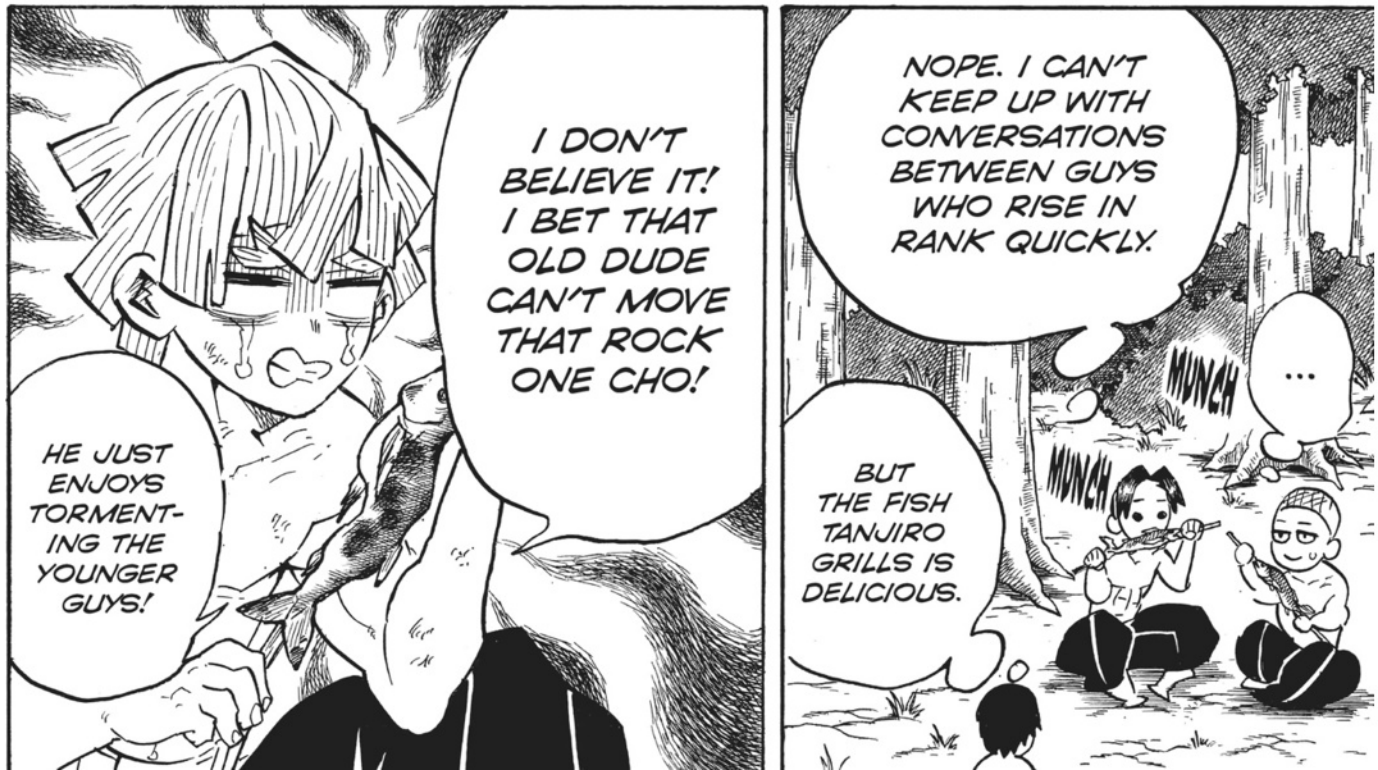

ON MY FIRST DAY, I COULDN'T DO WATERFALL TRAINING UNTIL THE EVENING. I COULDN'T GET USED TO THE WATER.
...YOU AND THAT BOAR ARE AMAZING.
WHOA...
HEH HEH HEH...

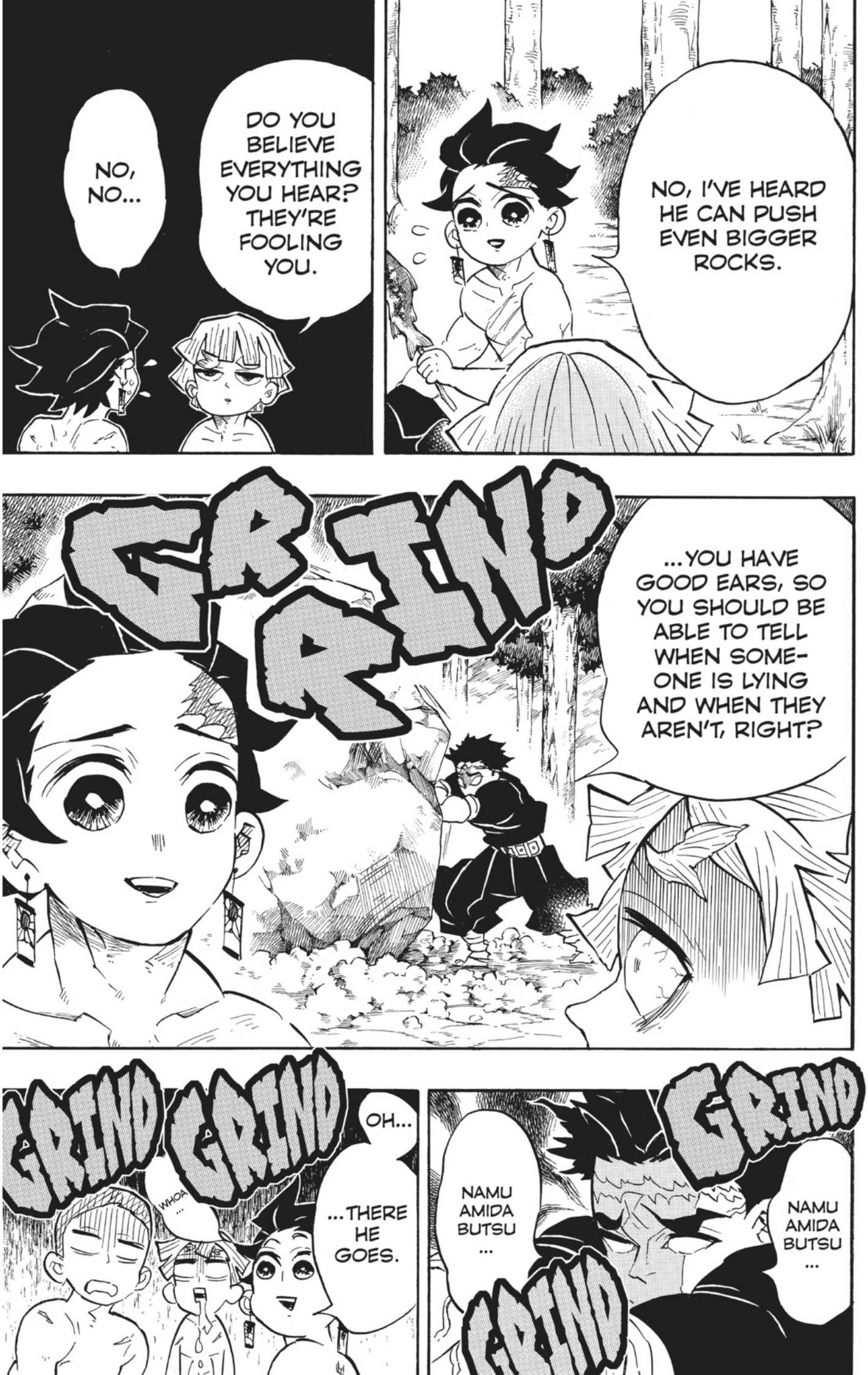
*ABOUT 30 minutes

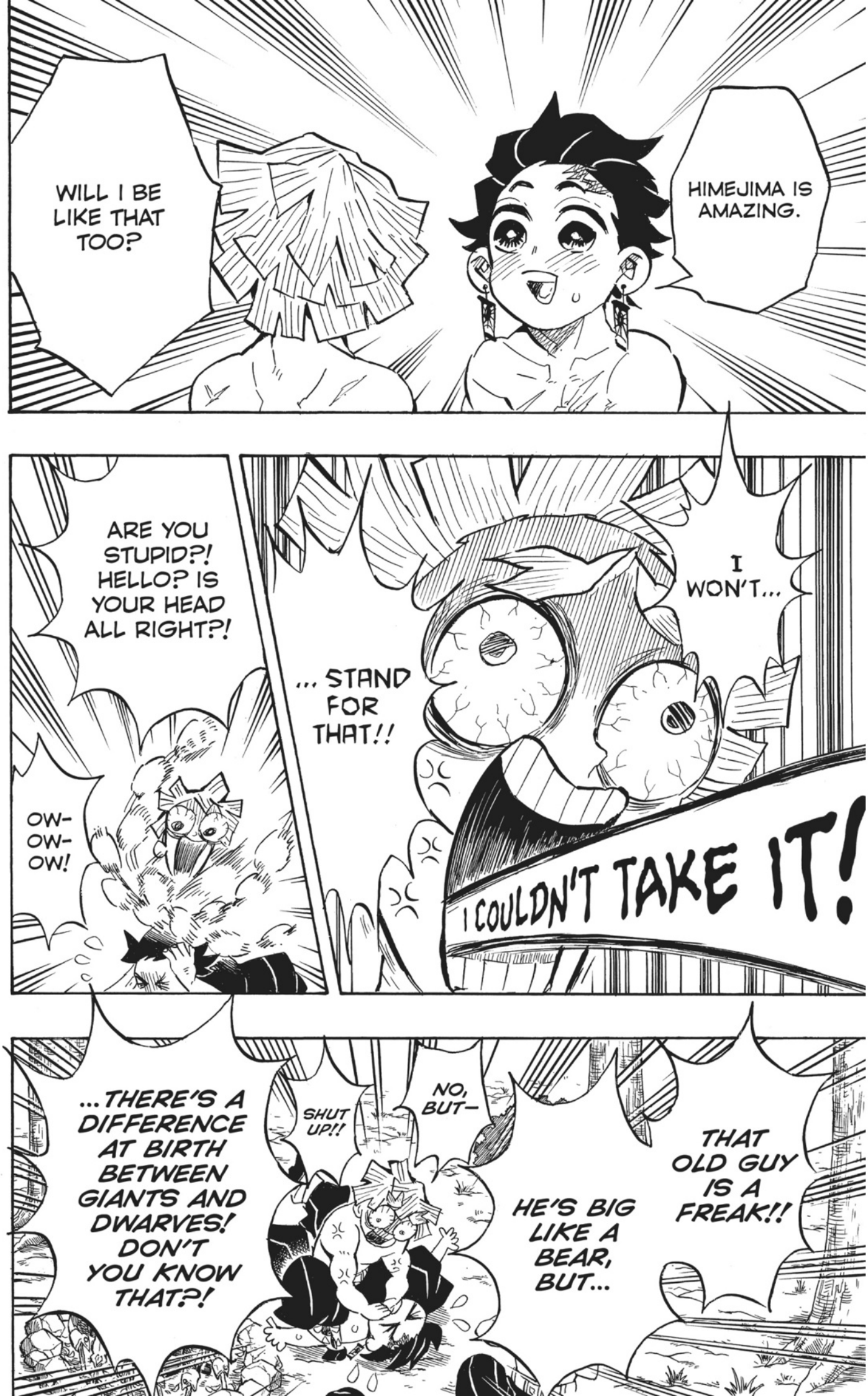
*INOSUKE


CRNCH
CRNCH
WITHOUT A DOUBT, THAT GUY...
THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM, I WAS SHOCKED.
YOU'RE EATING THE BONES TOO, INOSUKE?
DON'T GIVE HIM STRANGE NICK-NAMES.
YOU MEAN HIMEJIMA, THE STONE HASHIRA?

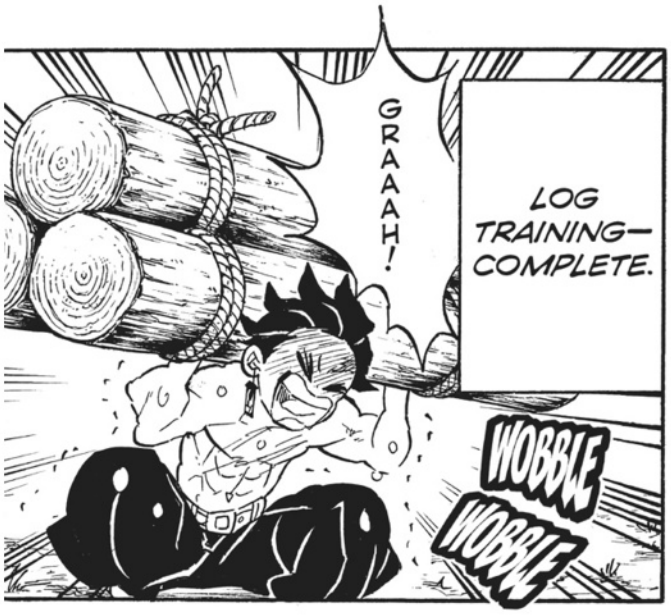
REALLY?
OH...
...I SUSPECTED AS MUCH.
...IS THE STRONGEST MEMBER OF THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS.
MAYBE HE'LL MANIFEST THE MARK SOON.
HIMEJIMA SMELLS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS.
HIS TENTH FISH
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED.
CRNCH
CRNCH


I DON'T BELIEVE IT! I BET THAT OLD DUDE CAN'T MOVE THAT ROCK ONE CHO!
HE JUST ENJOYS TORMENTING THE YOUNGER GUYS!
NOPE. I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN GUYS WHO RISE IN RANK QUICKLY.
...
MUNCH
MUNCH
BUT THE FISH TANJIRO GRILLS IS DELICIOUS.


NO, I'VE HEARD HE CAN PUSH EVEN BIGGER ROCKS.
DO YOU BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR? THEY'RE FOOLING YOU.
NO, NO...
GRIND
...YOU HAVE GOOD EARS, SO YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL WHEN SOME-ONE IS LYING AND WHEN THEY AREN'T, RIGHT?
GRIND
GRIND
OH...
...THERE HE GOES.
WHOA...
GRIND
NAMU AMIDA BUTSU...
NAMU AMIDA BUTSU...

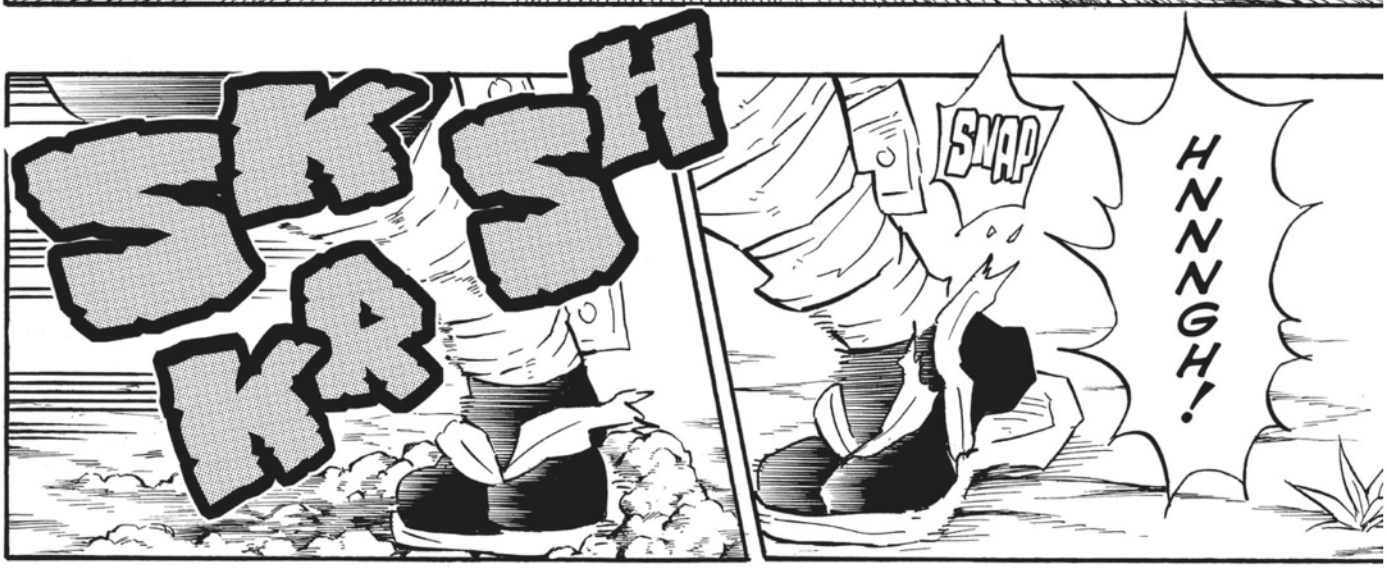

WILL I BE LIKE THAT TOO?
HIMEJIMA IS AMAZING.
ARE YOU STUPID?! HELLO? IS YOUR HEAD ALL RIGHT?!
OW-OW-OW!
... STAND FOR THAT!!
I WON'T...
I COULDN'T TAKE IT!
...THERE'S A DIFFERENCE AT BIRTH BETWEEN GIANTS AND DWARVES! DON'T YOU KNOW THAT?!
SHUT UP!!
NO, BUT—
HE'S BIG LIKE A BEAR, BUT...
THAT OLD GUY IS A FREAK!!

GAH! YOU'RE ALL SO POSITIVE!! I'M IN THE WRONG PLACE!!
CALM DOWN ...
I'M FULL, SO I'M GONNA GO CARRY THE LOGS AND PUSH THE BOULDER!
RRRRM
RRRRM


GRAAAH!
LOG TRAINING— COMPLETE.
WOBBLE WOBBLE

SPSPHH
WATERFALL TRAINING— COMPLETE.
GRAAAH!

URRRNNNEEF!!

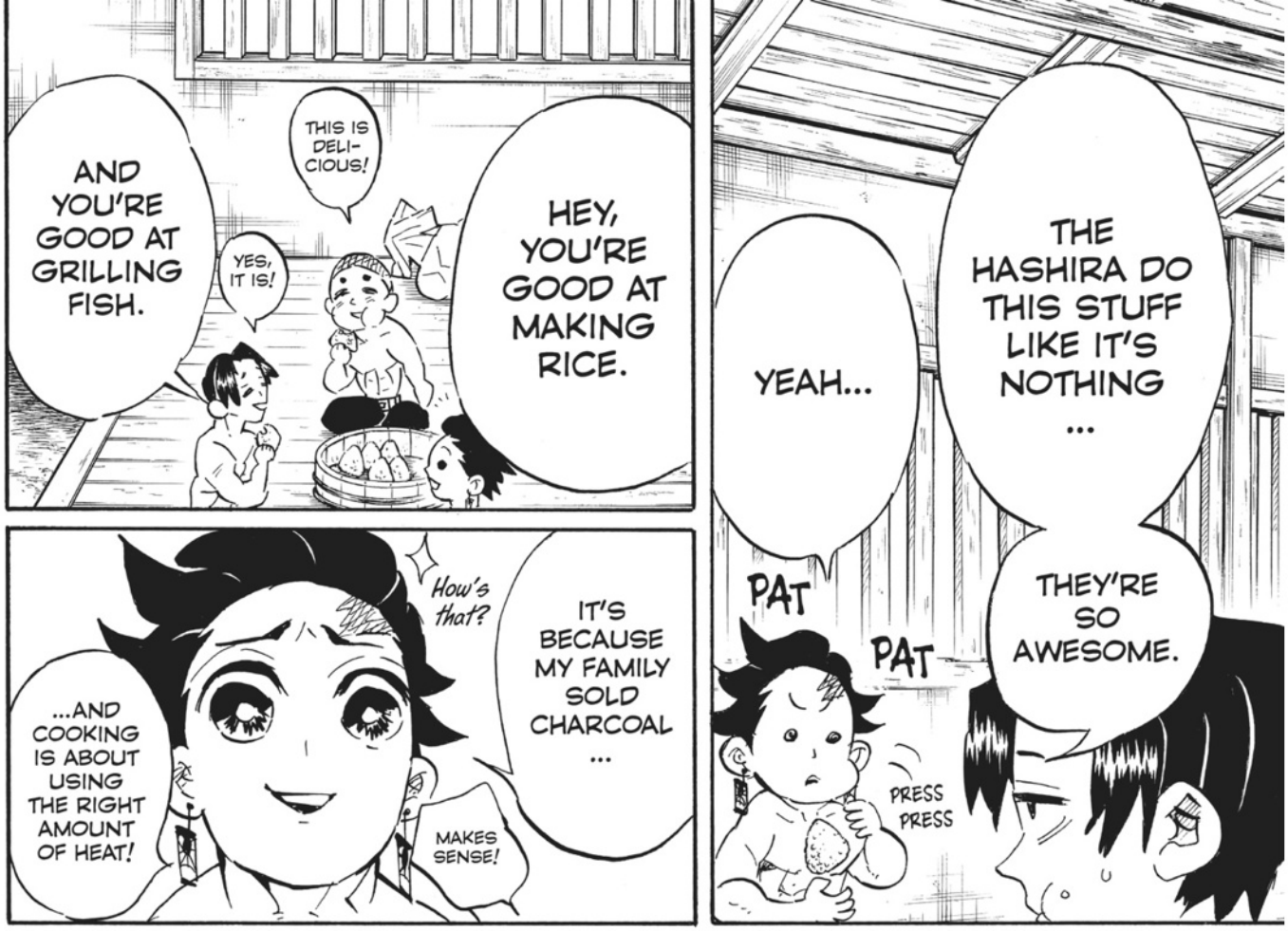

SKRASH
SNAP
HNNNGH!

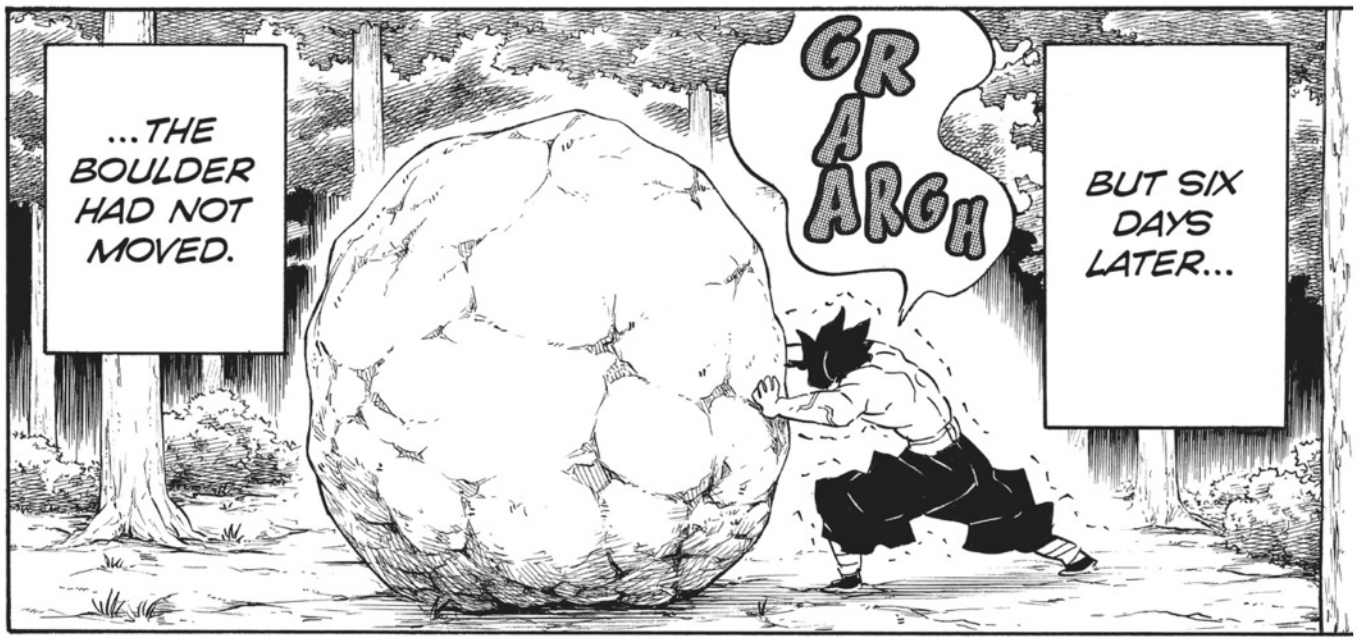
ARGH! IT'S LIKE IT'S PUSHING ME BACK!!
MY FEET KEEP SLIDING BACK!!

ANY TIME WE WANTED TO QUIT, WE COULD GO BACK DOWN THE MOUNTAIN.
HIME-JIMA'S TRAINING WAS HARSH...
...BUT IT WASN'T FORCED ON US.

WHY?
MMF!
PRESS
...WHY MOST OF THE HASHIRA DON'T HAVE TSUGUKO DISCIPLES.
PRESS
THIS TRAINING MADE ME REALIZE...

OR THEY SEE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE HASHIRA AND LOSE ALL HOPE LIKE THAT BLOND GUY.
YEAH ...
IT'S TOO HARD, SO EVERY-ONE RUNS AWAY.
I THINK I KNOW TOO.
NOGUCHI
SHIMAMOTO
NAGAKURA
YOSHIOKA

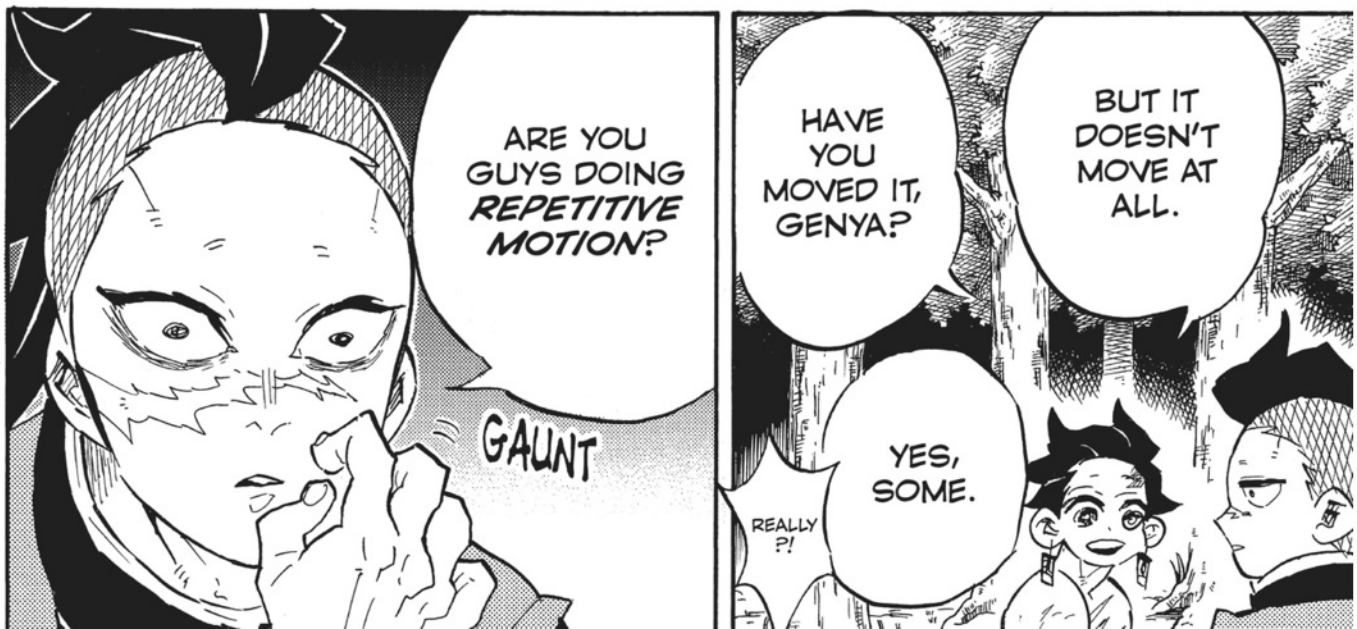

HEY, YOU'RE GOOD AT MAKING RICE.
THIS IS DELI-CIOUS!
YES, IT IS!
AND YOU'RE GOOD AT GRILLING FISH.
THE HASHIRA DO THIS STUFF LIKE IT'S NOTHING ...
YEAH...
PAT
PAT
THEY'RE SO AWESOME.
PRESS
PRESS
IT'S BECAUSE MY FAMILY SOLD CHARCOAL ...
How's that?
MAKES SENSE!
...AND COOKING IS ABOUT USING THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF HEAT!


BUT SIX DAYS LATER...
GR AARGH
...THE BOULDER HAD NOT MOVED.

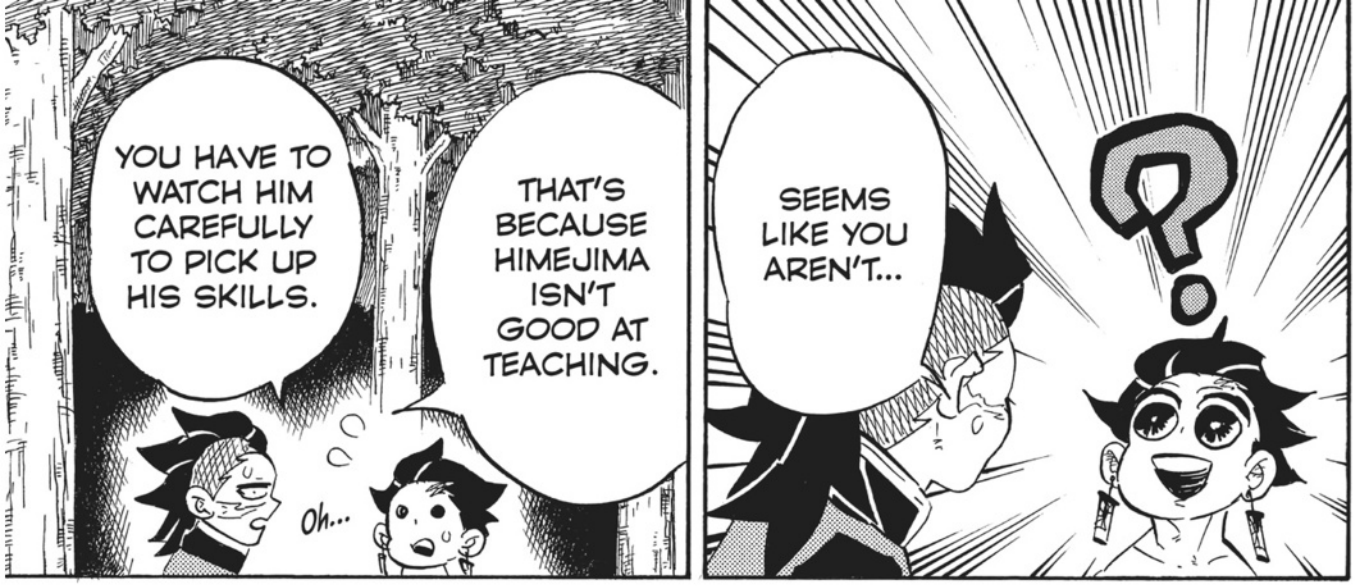
I COULDN'T DO IT TODAY EITHER...
WHEEZ
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WE DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THE DEMONS WILL STAY QUIET...
...SO I NEED TO HURRY.

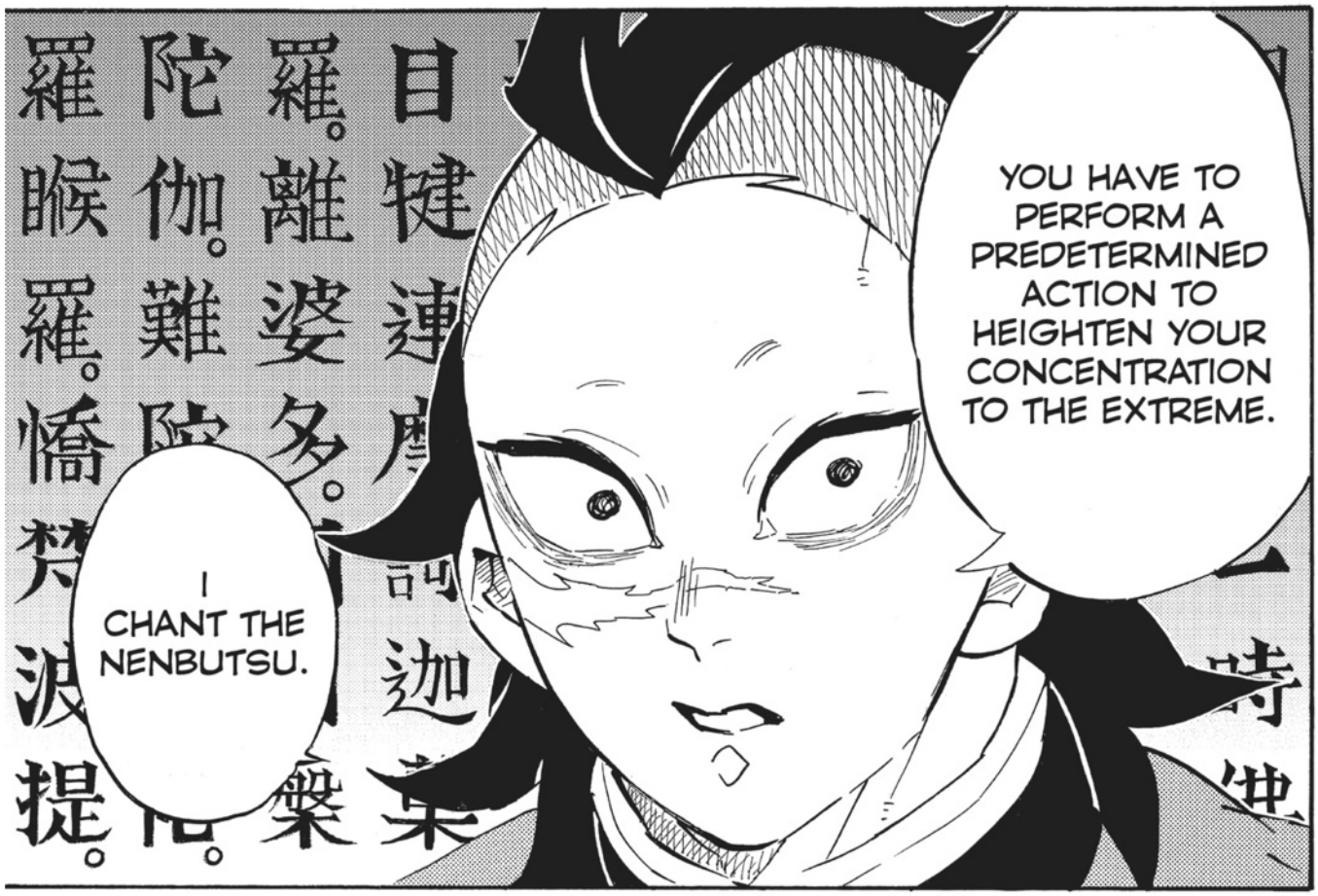
OH!
YES.
BUT NO ONE SAID ANYTHING.
IS IT GETTING DARKER?
IT'S HARD FOR THEM TO NOTICE BECAUSE THEY SEE YOU EVERY DAY.
SORRY YOU GOT INVOLVED.
AND THANKS FOR PROTECTING ME.
NO, UH...
ANYWAY, ABOUT YOUR MARK.

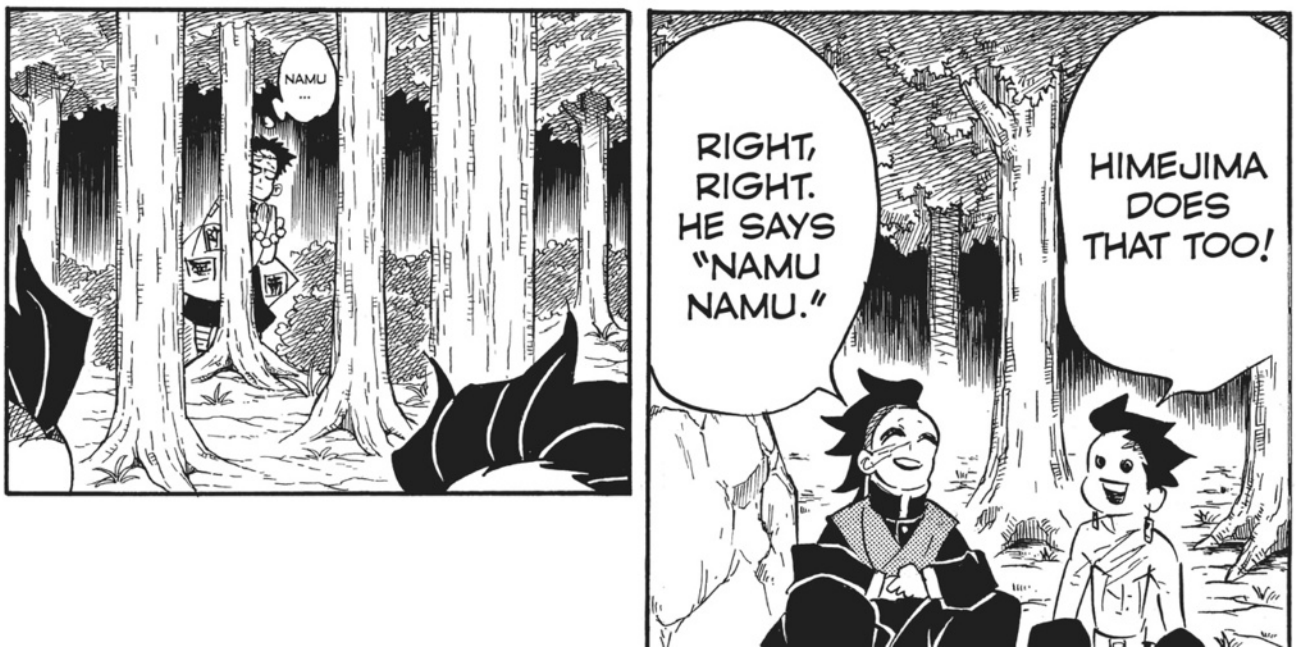
I'M DOING IT TOO.
YOU'RE DOING BOULDER TRAIN-ING?
GOOD. I'M GLAD.
IS IT REALLY GETTING DARKER?
NO.
DO YOU HAVE A MIRROR?
I'LL LEND YOU ONE LATER.
DIE.
NO, YOU DIE!


ARE YOU GUYS DOING *REPETITIVE MOTION*?
GAUNT
HAVE YOU MOVED IT, GENYA?
BUT IT DOESN'T MOVE AT ALL.
YES, SOME.
REALLY?!

I'VE TRAINED A LOT BUT STILL CAN'T MAINTAIN THE MARK.
IS IT REALLY BECAUSE I LACK MUSCLE STRENGTH?
OR IS THERE ANOTHER BREATHING METHOD?
IS THE MARK ON YOUR FOREHEAD GETTING DARKER?
I HAD ORDERS TO STAY AWAY FROM MY BIG BROTHER, BUT THEN I GOT INTO A TUSSLE.
HIMEJIMA GOT ANGRY, SO I COULDN'T GO ANYWHERE.
ARE YOU OKAY?! AFTER THAT FIGHT, I COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU, SO I WAS WORRIED!
AGH! GENYA !!
WAP


YOU HAVE TO WATCH HIM CAREFULLY TO PICK UP HIS SKILLS.
THAT'S BECAUSE HIMEJIMA ISN'T GOOD AT TEACHING.
Oh...
SEEMS LIKE YOU AREN'T...
?!


YOU HAVE TO PERFORM A PREDETERMINED ACTION TO HEIGHTEN YOUR CONCENTRATION TO THE EXTREME.
I CHANT THE NENBUTSU.


NAMU...
RIGHT, RIGHT. HE SAYS "NAMU NAMU."
HIMEJIMA DOES THAT TOO!

SKITTER
STARE
STARE
STARE
*EYES: FOUR
INFINITY CASTLE
STRUM
BEE
THUD
BEE
I HAVE FOUND ANOTHER ONE.

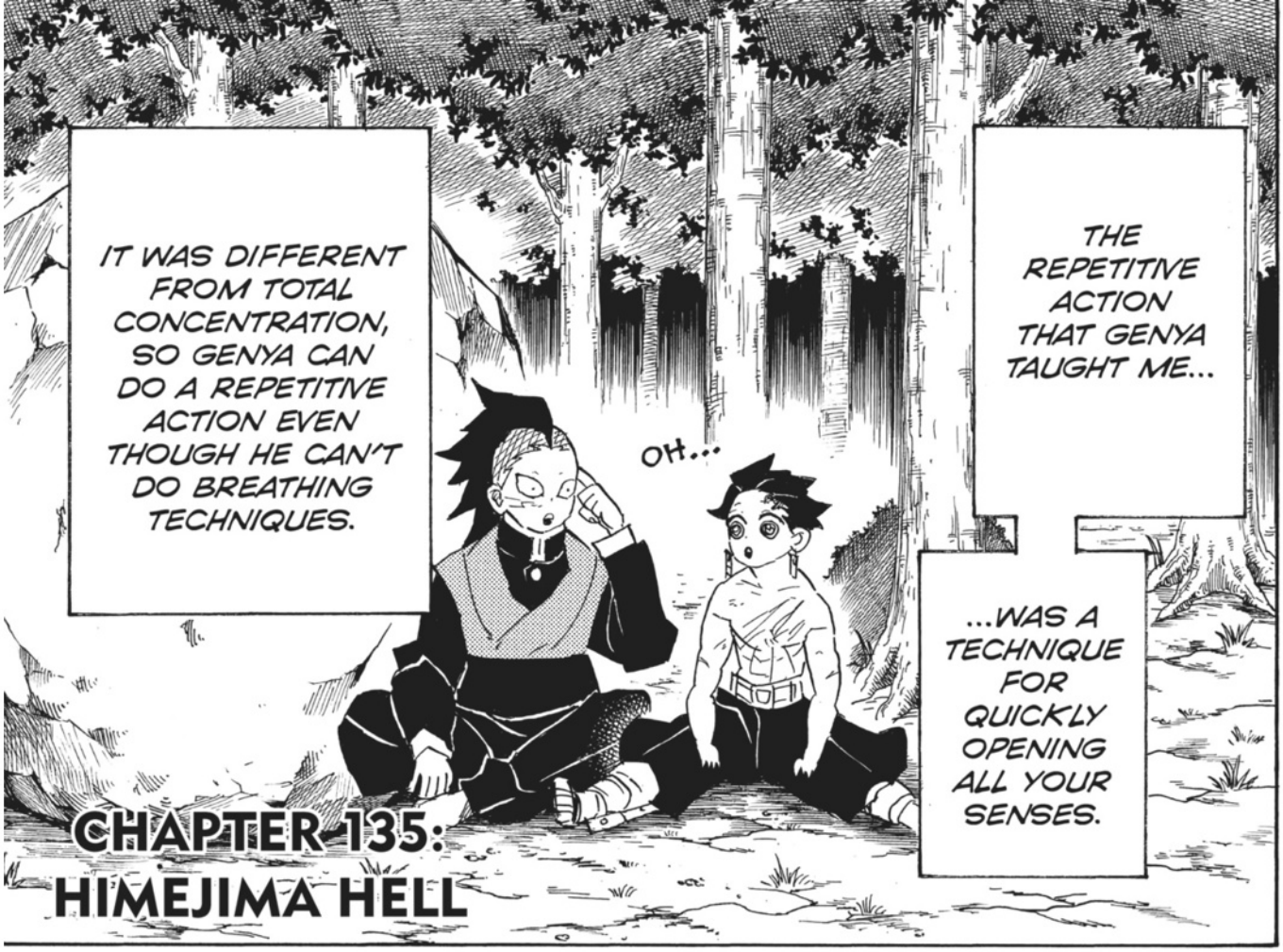
NOW I HAVE DETERMINED THE LOCATION OF 60 PERCENT OF THE DEMON SLAYERS.
HOWEVER, I STILL HAVE NOT FOUND THE GIRL WHO CONQUERED THE SUN.

NEXT TRY... YES...
... AROUND HERE.
AS YOU WISH.

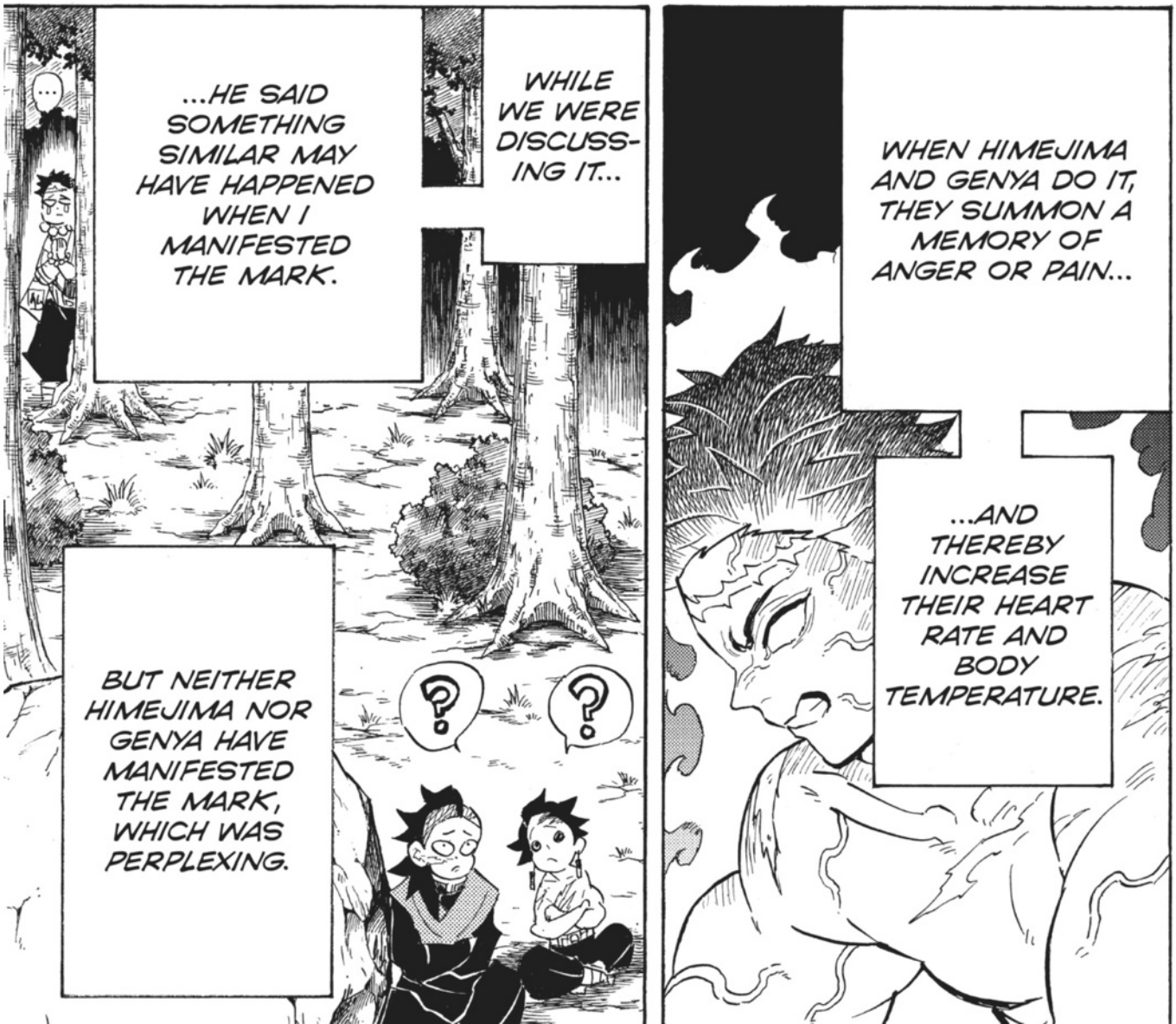
NAKIME, YOU HAVE GROWN MORE THAN I THOUGHT.
THAT IS WONDER-FUL.
YOU HONOR ME.

I WILL SOON FIND...
...NEZUKO AND UBUYASHIKI.

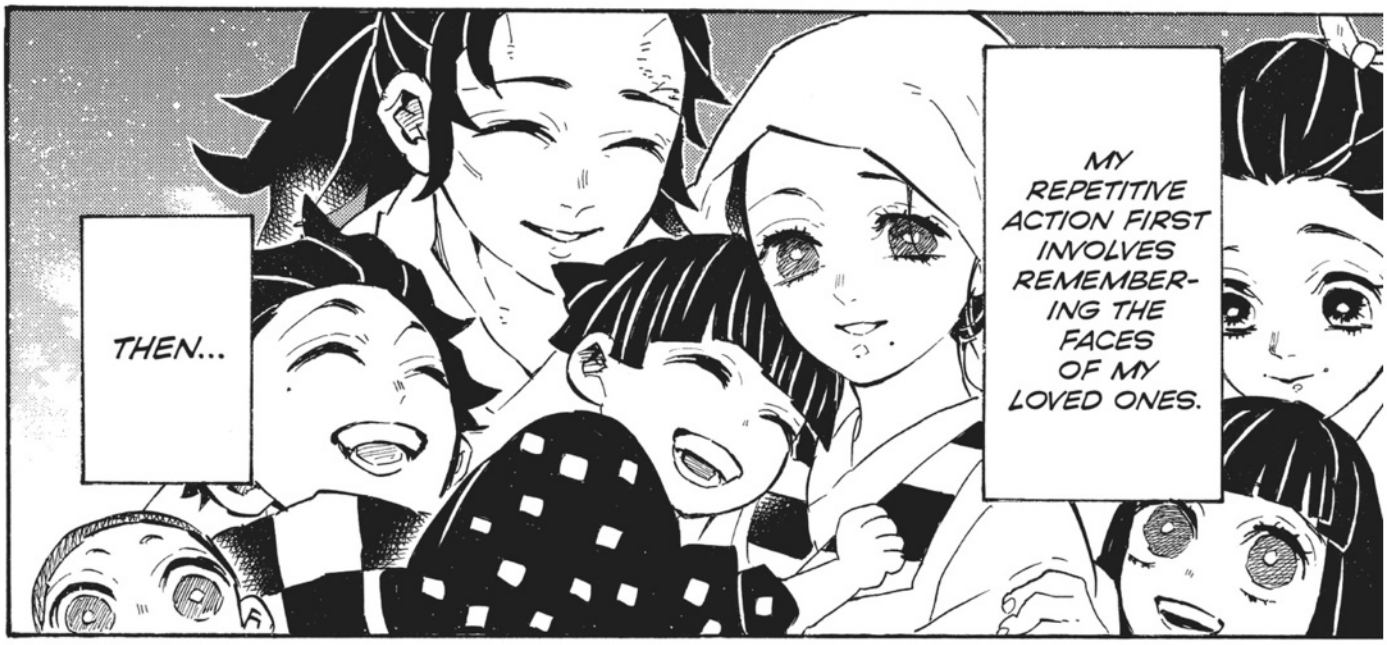
During Hashira Training, Tanjiro was nicknamed "Mom."


THE REPETITIVE ACTION THAT GENYA TAUGHT ME...
...WAS A TECHNIQUE FOR QUICKLY OPENING ALL YOUR SENSES.
OH...
IT WAS DIFFERENT FROM TOTAL CONCENTRATION, SO GENYA CAN DO A REPETITIVE ACTION EVEN THOUGH HE CAN'T DO BREATHING TECHNIQUES.

CHAPTER 135: HIMEJIMA HELL

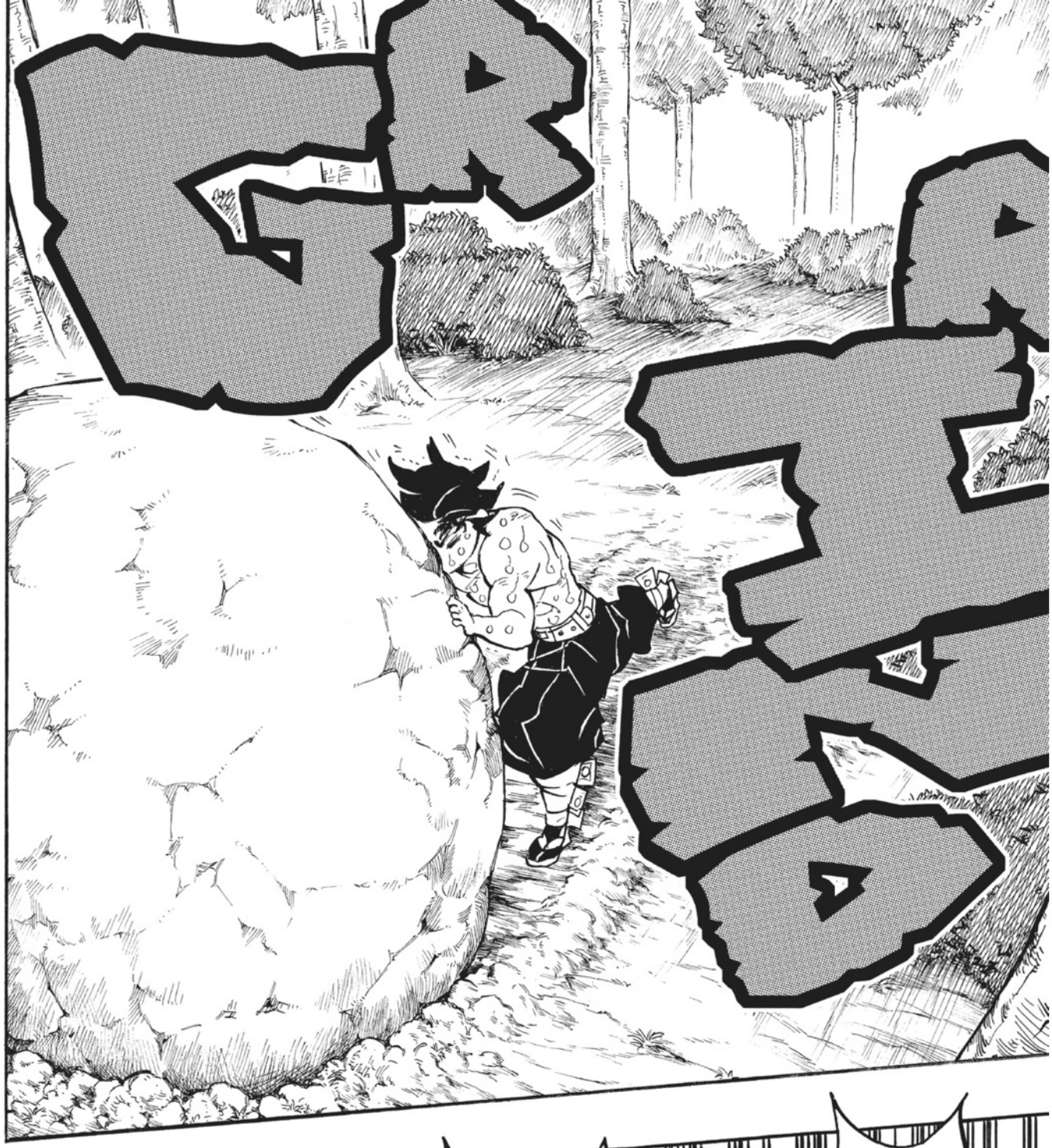

WHEN HIMEJIMA AND GENYA DO IT, THEY SUMMON A MEMORY OF ANGER OR PAIN...
...AND THEREBY INCREASE THEIR HEART RATE AND BODY TEMPERATURE.
WHILE WE WERE DISCUSS-ING IT...
...HE SAID SOMETHING SIMILAR MAY HAVE HAPPENED WHEN I MANIFESTED THE MARK.
BUT NEITHER HIMEJIMA NOR GENYA HAVE MANIFESTED THE MARK, WHICH WAS PERPLEXING.
?
?

IT WOULD BE NICE IF THIS HELPED ME CONTINUE MANIFEST-ING A DARK MARK.
FWOO!
BY DOING A REPETITIVE ACTION, YOU CAN HEIGHTEN CONCENTRATION TO THE EXTREME IN ONLY A MOMENT AT ANY TIME.


THEN...
MY REPETITIVE ACTION FIRST INVOLVES REMEMBER-ING THE FACES OF MY LOVED ONES.

THAT PROCESS RAISES MY CONCENTRA-TION TO THE EXTREME.
...I REMEMBER RENGOKU'S WORDS—
"KEEP YOUR HEART BURN-ING."

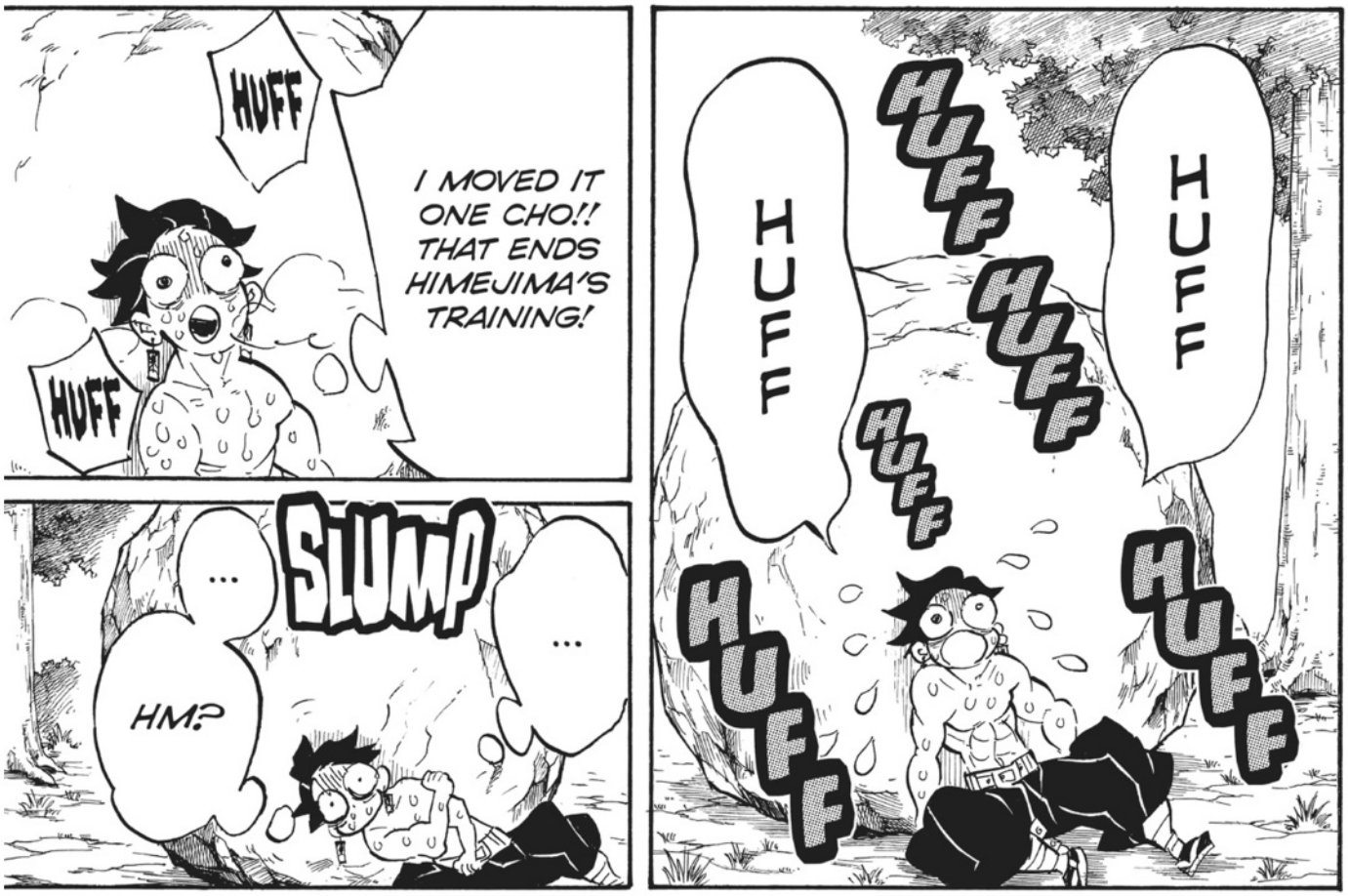
GRAAA
AAAH!!
UMPH
AT FIRST I COULDN'T DO IT...
...BUT THEN I REPEATEDLY SHIFTED FROM REPETITIVE ACTION...
...TO EXERTING MY FULL STRENGTH ...
GRRR
UMPH
AND AS I DID IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN...
...MY BODY BEGAN TO REMEMBER THE PROCESS.

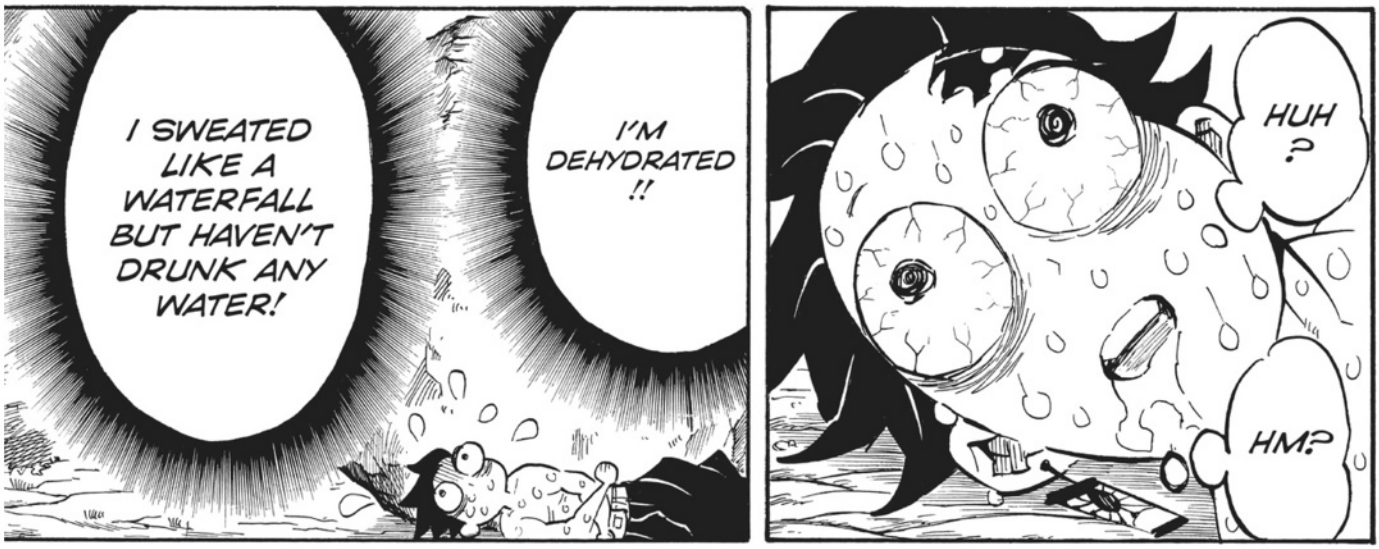

CRASH

ARGH! HE BEAT US!!
HE'S A MON-STER!
HE DID IT! TANJIRO DID IT!!

IT ISN'T ALL ABOUT YOUR ARMS! THE LEGS AND HIPS! PUSH WITH YOUR LEGS AND HIPS!!
K-KEEP GOING!! IF YOU LET UP FOR A MOMENT, YOUR STRENGTH WILL GIVE OUT!
KEEP PUSHING AS LONG AS YOU CAN!
DRIP
DRIP
YOU HAVE MORE MUSCLE STRENGTH IN YOUR LOWER BODY THAN YOUR UPPER BODY!
HAAAH!
TEMPURA!
BAM
BAM
TEMPURA!
...RUSH!!
BOAR...

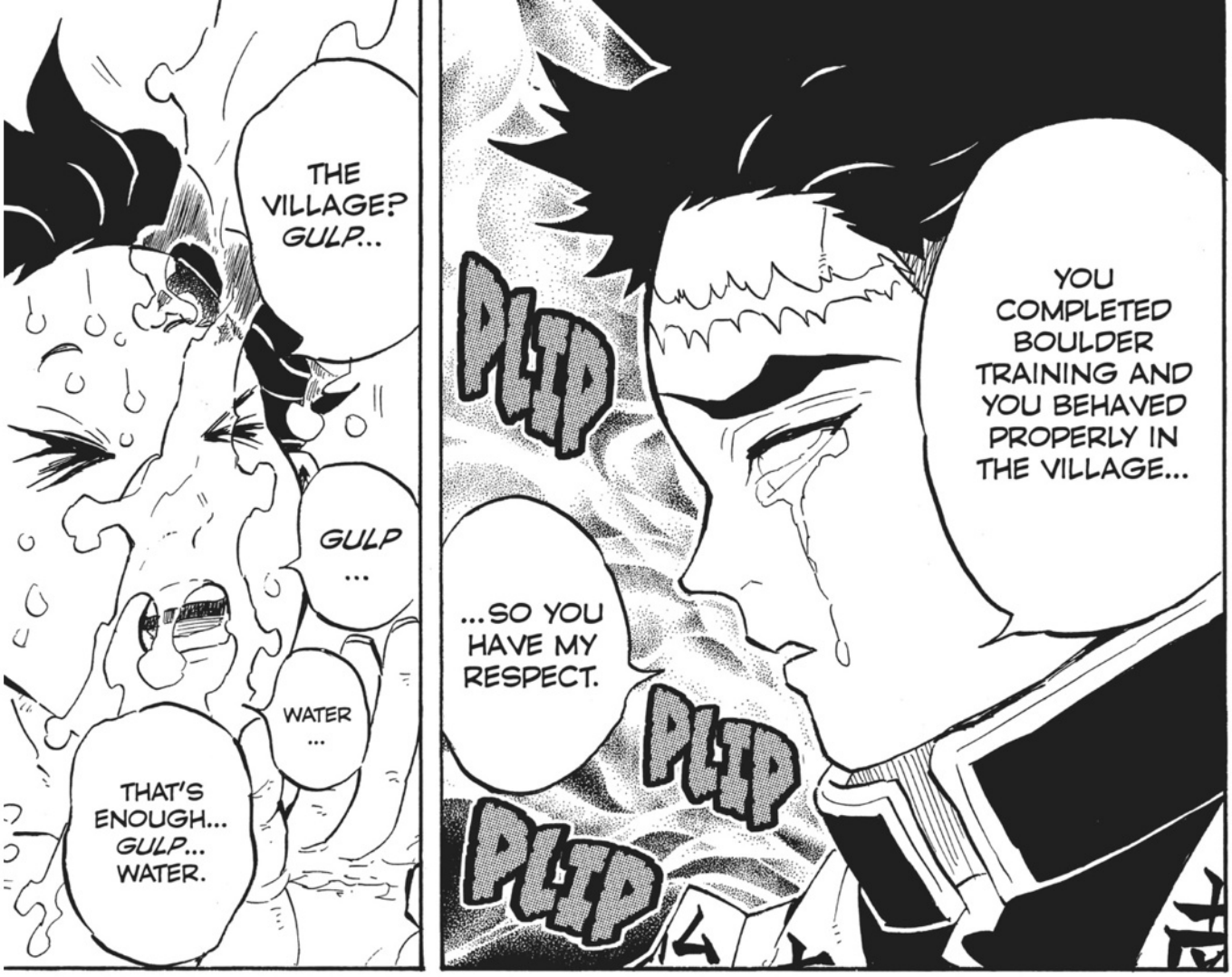
GRUNT
URGRAAH!!
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
NOW IT'S ONLY ME! THIS SUCKS!!!
INOSUKE MOVED THE BOULDER TOO! THIS SUCKS!!
HUH?
WHAT? A LETTER?


HUFF
I MOVED IT ONE CHO!! THAT ENDS HIMEJIMA'S TRAINING!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
SLUMP
...
...
HM?


I SWEATED LIKE A WATERFALL BUT HAVEN'T DRUNK ANY WATER!
I'M DEHYDRATED !!
HUH ?
HM?

TMP
I THINK I'M GONNA DIE!
S-SOME-ONE HELP!!
Z-ZENITSU! INOSUKE!! MURATA!!

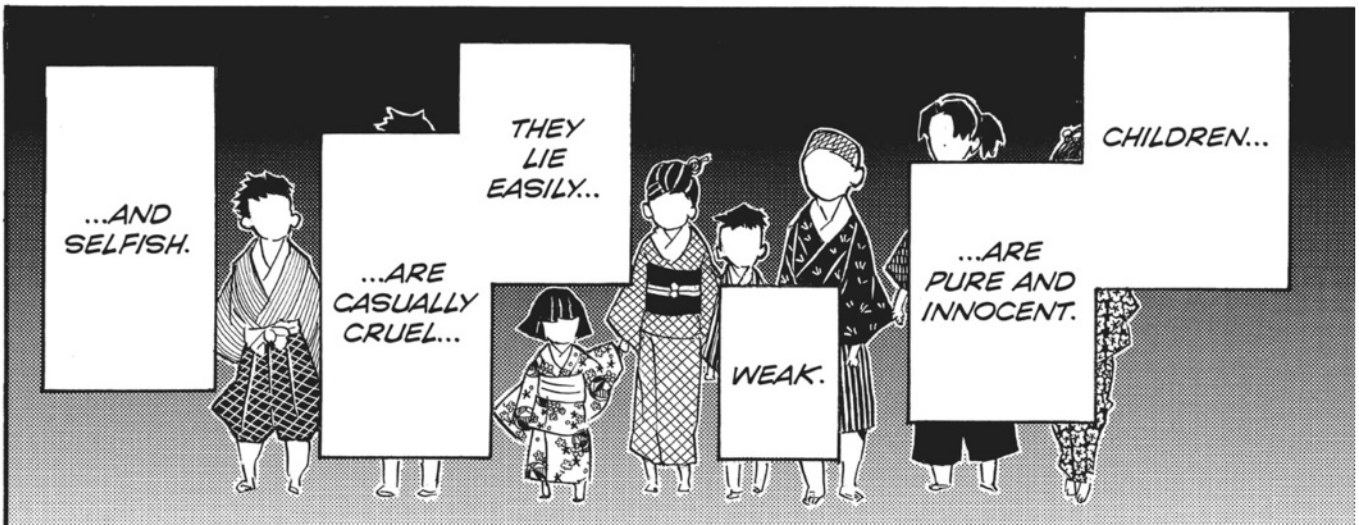
I'M SAVED!
OH...
...IT'S HIME-JIMA.
BLUP BLUP
南無阿弥陀仏
NAMU AMIDA BUTSU, NAMU AMIDA BUTSU...
HUH?! DID I DIE?!
MORE WATER, HUH?
GLUB GLUB BLUB!
GLUG
GLUG
TH-THANK YOU!
WAP
OH, I'M ALIVE!


YOU COMPLETED BOULDER TRAINING AND YOU BEHAVED PROPERLY IN THE VILLAGE...
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
...SO YOU HAVE MY RESPECT.
THE VILLAGE? GULP...
GULP ...
WATER ...
THAT'S ENOUGH... GULP... WATER.

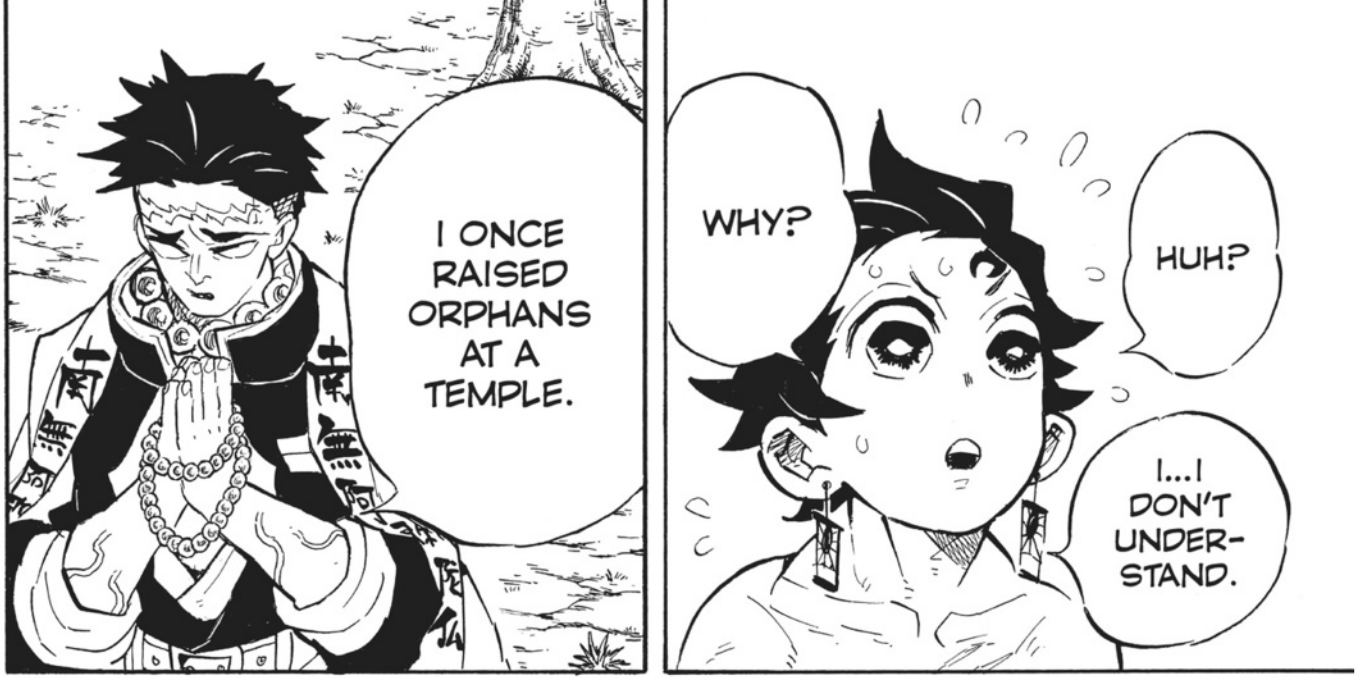
IN THE VILLAGE OF SWORD-SMITHS, YOU PRIORITIZED THE LIVES OF THE VILLAGERS OVER THE LIFE OF YOUR DEMON LITTLE SISTER.
OH...
THAT WAS...
DO NOT BE ASHAMED. YOU ARE A TRUE SWORDS-MAN.
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR RIGHT ACTION.

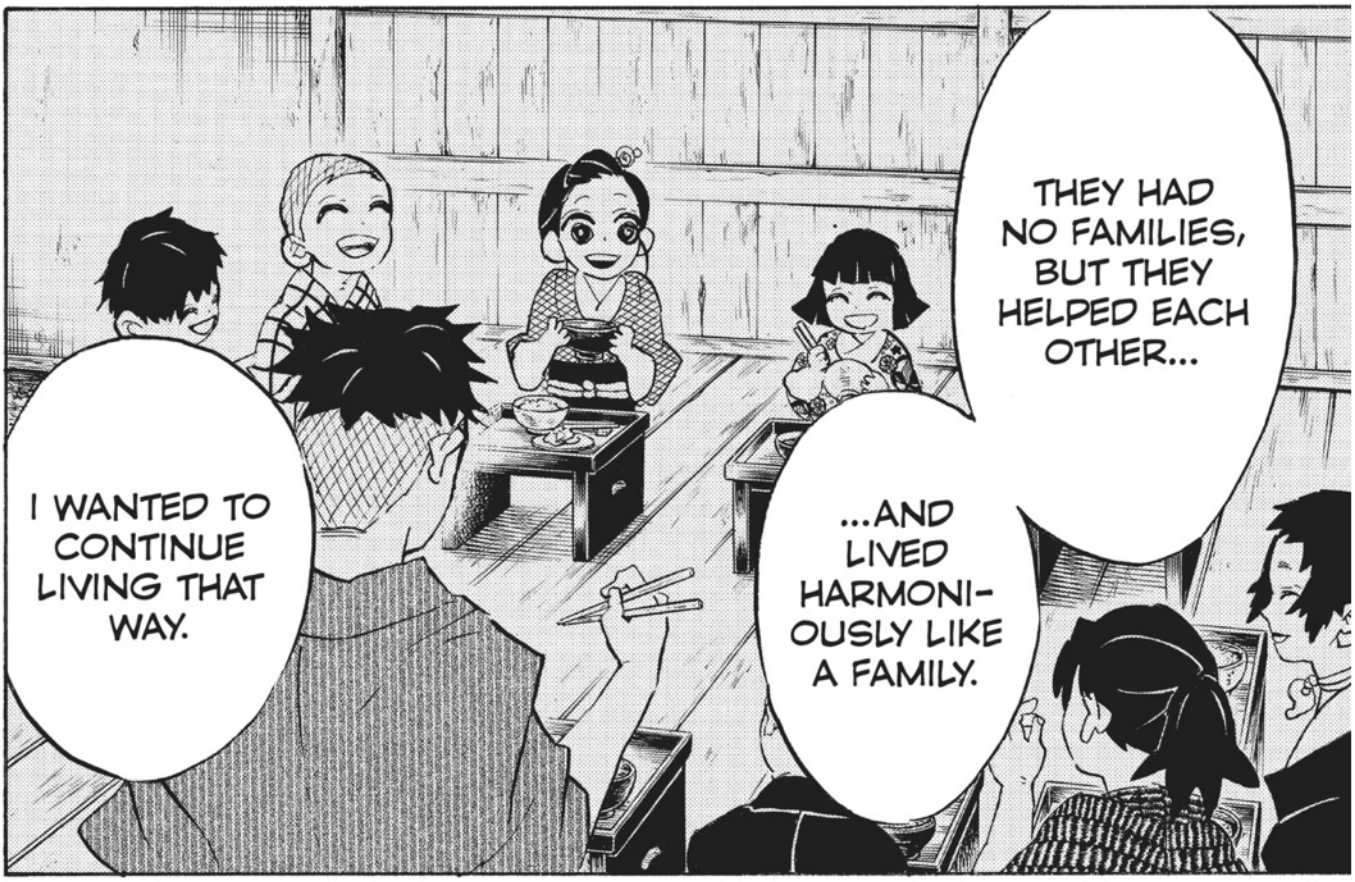
NO, YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND.
IT WAS NEZUKO WHO MADE THAT DECISION, NOT ME.
I COULDN'T DECIDE AND THE VILLAGERS ALMOST DIED.

SO I'M NOT WORTHY OF YOUR RESPECT.


...AND SELFISH.
THEY LIE EASILY...
...ARE CASUALLY CRUEL...
WEAK.
CHILDREN...
...ARE PURE AND INNOCENT.

I ALWAYS WANT TO PROCEED DOWN A PATH WITHOUT MAKING MISTAKES...
...BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT LIES AHEAD.
BUT THIS CHILD IS DIFFERENT.
SO DON'T BE TOO QUICK TO RESPECT ME.
HARDHEADED KID
IT WAS REALLY DANGEROUS THAT TIME.
...AND AS A RESULT I GET BY WITHOUT MAKING MISTAKES.
SOMEONE ALWAYS HELPS ME...
MY DOUBTS ARE GONE.
NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS, I RESPECT YOU, TANJIRO KAMADO.
BOW
THANK YOU FOR THE WATER.
AND THANK YOU FOR TRAINING ME.
I'VE LEARNED A LOT.

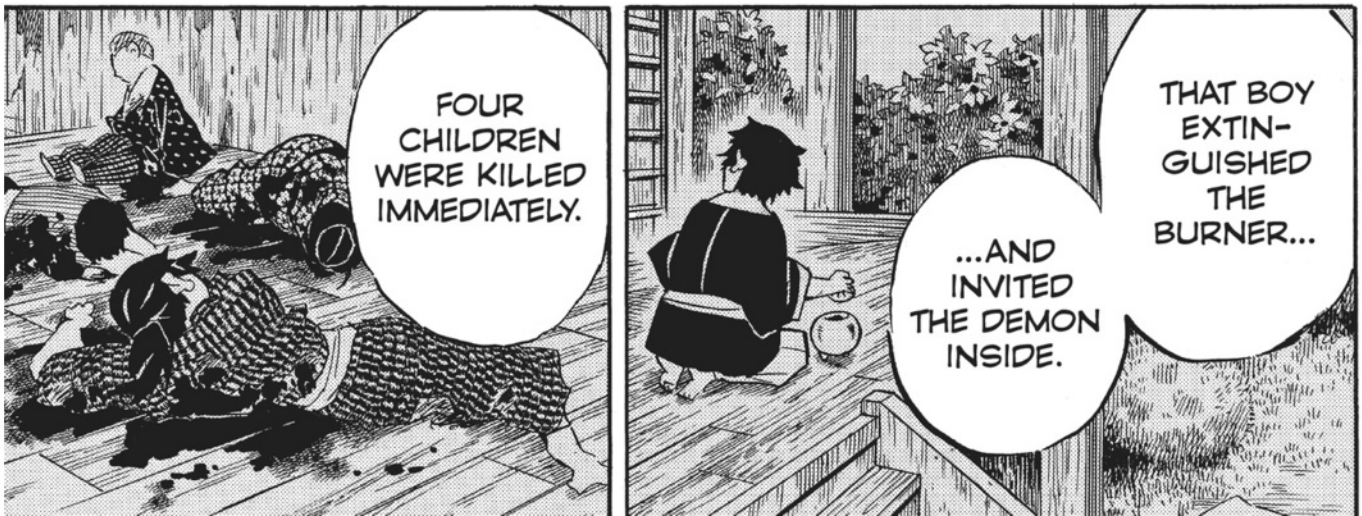

I ONCE RAISED ORPHANS AT A TEMPLE.
HUH?
WHY?
I...I DON'T UNDER-STAND.


THEY HAD NO FAMILIES, BUT THEY HELPED EACH OTHER...
...AND LIVED HARMONI-OUSLY LIKE A FAMILY.
I WANTED TO CONTINUE LIVING THAT WAY.

BUT ONE NIGHT...
...A CHILD WHO BROKE THE RULES BY NOT RETURNING BEFORE DARK...
... ENCOUN-TERED A DEMON.

TO SAVE HIMSELF, HE SAID HE WOULD FEED ME AND THE EIGHT CHILDREN AT THE TEMPLE TO THE DEMON.

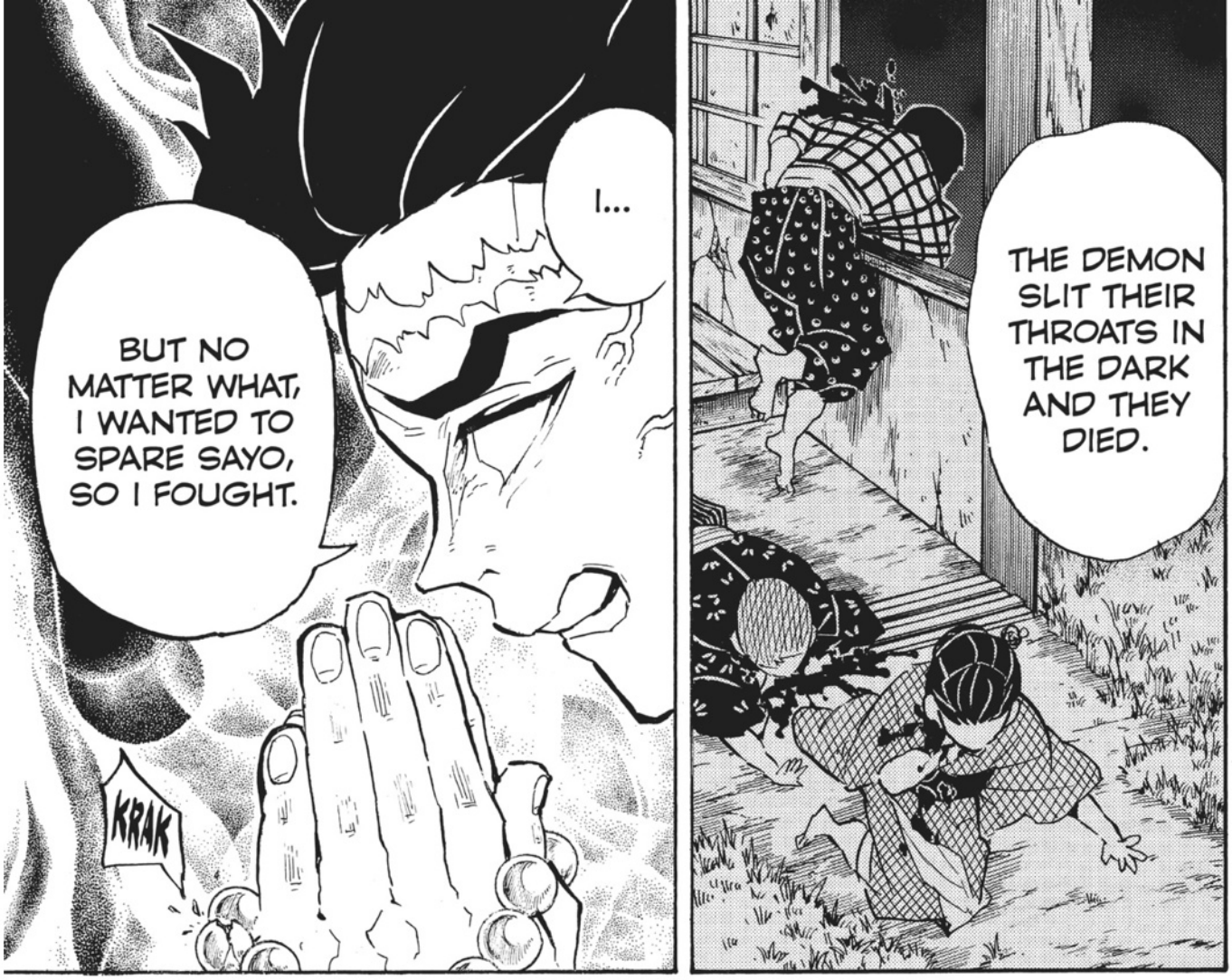
IN THE AREA WHERE WE LIVED, THE FEAR OF DEMONS RAN DEEP...
...SO WE LIT A WISTERIA-FLOWER INCENSE BURNER EACH NIGHT.


FOUR CHILDREN WERE KILLED IMMEDIATELY.
...AND INVITED THE DEMON INSIDE.
THAT BOY EXTIN-GUISHED THE BURNER...

I TRIED TO PROTECT THE REMAINING FOUR, BUT THREE OF THEM WOULDN'T LISTEN TO ME.
AT THE TIME, WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH FOOD, SO I WAS WEAK.
I WAS FAINT OF HEART AND HAD NEVER EVEN SHOUTED.

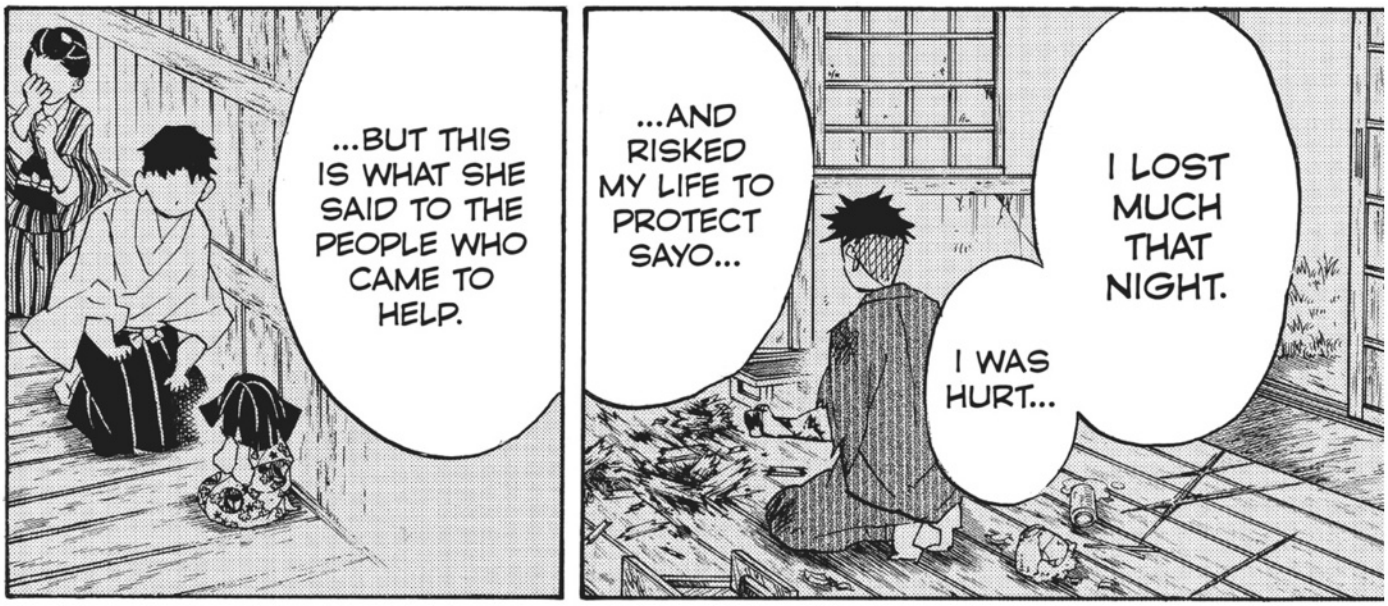
AND I SUPPOSE THEY FELT...
...THAT A BLIND ADULT COULDN'T SAVE THEM.
!!
HIMEJIMA CAN'T...

THE ONLY ONE WHO LISTENED TO ME WAS SAYO, THE YOUNGEST.
SHE ALONE HID BEHIND ME.
AND THE OTHER THREE CHILDREN RAN OFF.


I...
BUT NO MATTER WHAT, I WANTED TO SPARE SAYO, SO I FOUGHT.
KRAK
THE DEMON SLIT THEIR THROATS IN THE DARK AND THEY DIED.

IF A DEMON HAD NEVER ATTACKED...
...I WOULD NEVER HAVE KNOWN MY OWN STRENGTH.
I CAN NEVER FORGET MY DISGUST.
THE FEELING OF PUNCHING A LIVING THING WAS LIKE HELL.
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I SWUNG MY FISTS WITH MY FULL MIGHT—WITH A POWER FRIGHTENING EVEN TO ME.

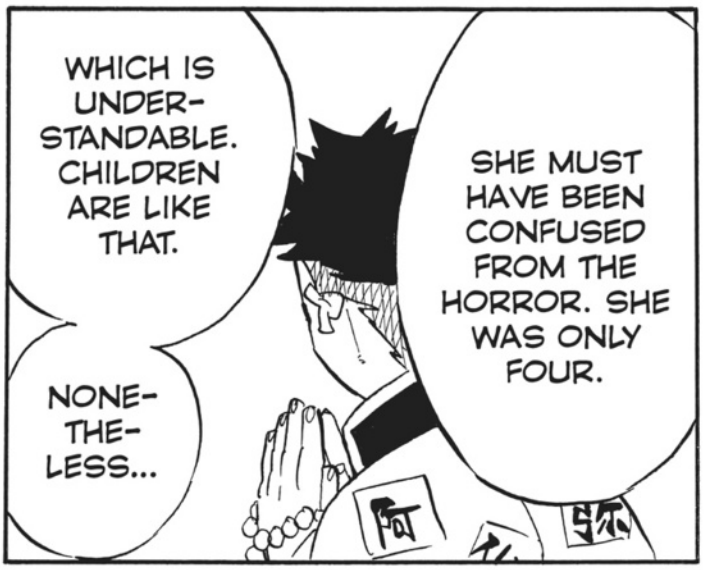
I CONTINUED PUNCHING AND SMASHING THE DEMON'S HEAD UNTIL DAWN.


I LOST MUCH THAT NIGHT.
I WAS HURT...
...AND RISKED MY LIFE TO PROTECT SAYO...
...BUT THIS IS WHAT SHE SAID TO THE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO HELP.

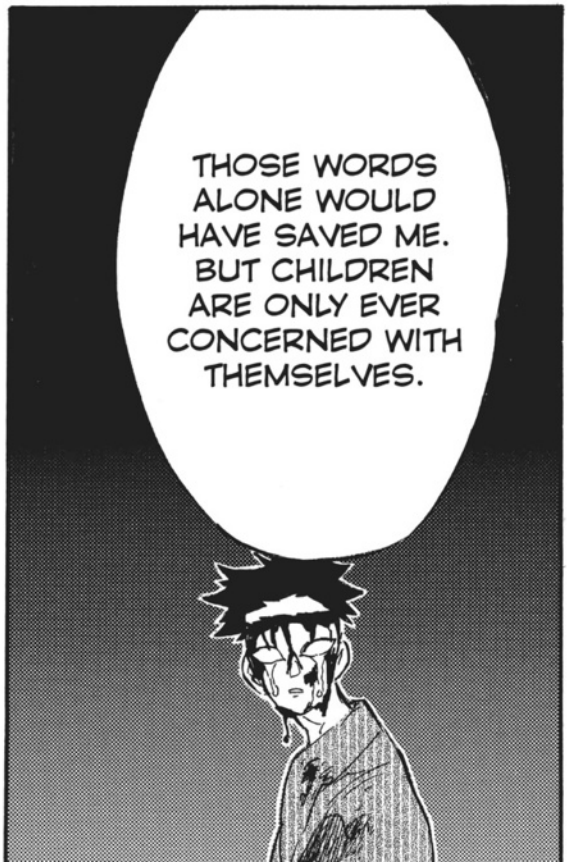
THAT MAN IS A MONSTER!
EVERYONE... HE...
...KILLED EVERYONE!

NO WAY...

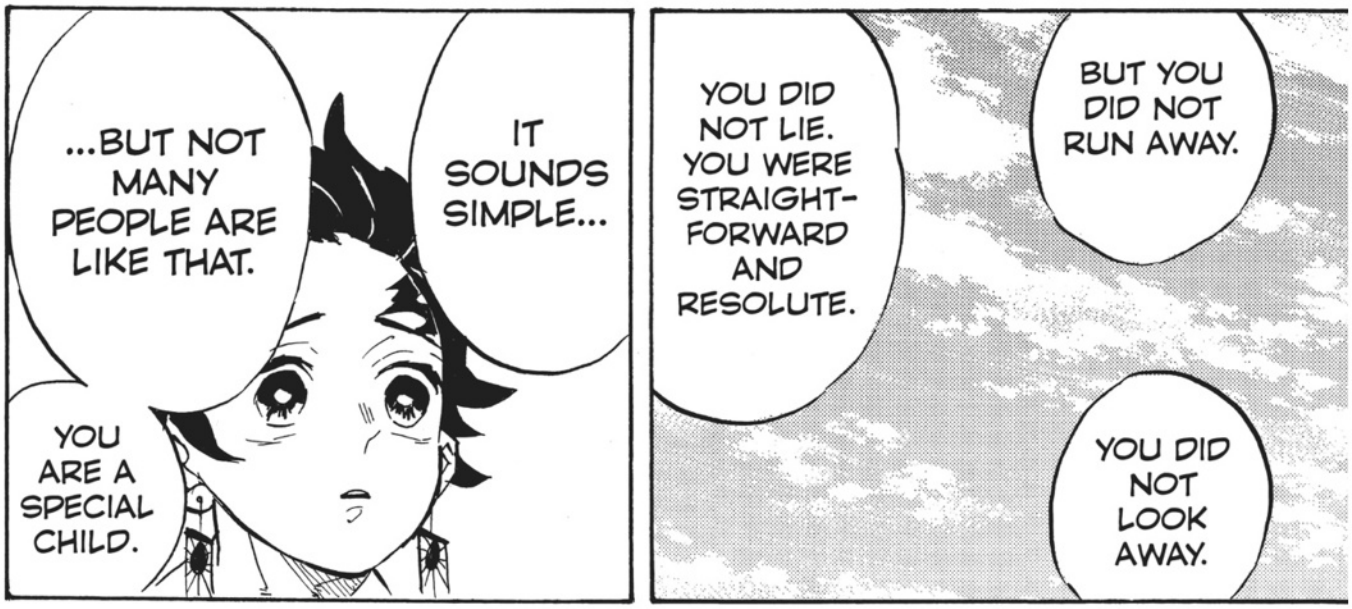
I WANTED HER TO THANK ME FOR FIGHTING FOR HER.
...I AT LEAST WANTED SOME GRATITUDE.


SHE MUST HAVE BEEN CONFUSED FROM THE HORROR. SHE WAS ONLY FOUR.
WHICH IS UNDER-STANDABLE. CHILDREN ARE LIKE THAT.
NONE-THE-LESS...

THE AUTHORITIES IMPRISONED ME FOR THEIR MURDER.
THE DEMON'S CORPSE TURNED TO DUST AND DISAPPEARED, LEAVING ONLY THE CHILDREN'S BODIES.

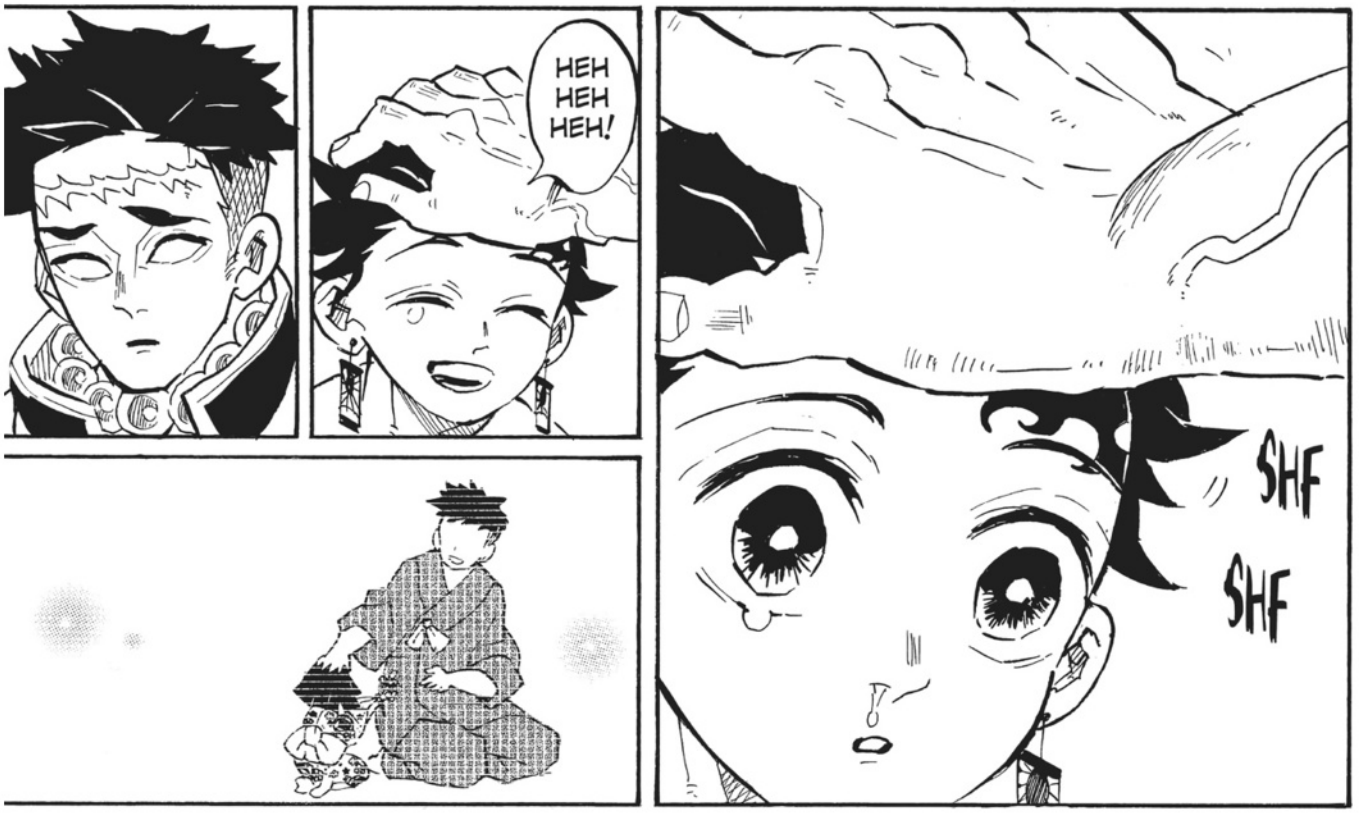

THOSE WORDS ALONE WOULD HAVE SAVED ME. BUT CHILDREN ARE ONLY EVER CONCERNED WITH THEMSELVES.

IF THE MASTER HAD NOT HELPED ME, I WOULD HAVE BEEN EXECUTED.
AFTER THAT, I BECAME A DEEPLY DISTRUSTFUL PERSON.
AND, OF COURSE, I DIDN'T EVEN BELIEVE IN YOU.
NO MATTER HOW RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE USUALLY ARE, THEY REVEAL THEIR TRUE SELVES IN TIMES OF DISASTER.


BUT YOU DID NOT RUN AWAY.
YOU DID NOT LOOK AWAY.
YOU DID NOT LIE. YOU WERE STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND RESOLUTE.
IT SOUNDS SIMPLE...
...BUT NOT MANY PEOPLE ARE LIKE THAT.
YOU ARE A SPECIAL CHILD.

I HAVE SEEN MANY PEOPLE WITH THE EYES OF MY HEART, SO IF I SAY THIS, IT IS TRUE.
EVERYONE IS UNEASY ABOUT THE FUTURE.
FROM NOW ON, I WILL HELP YOU SO THAT YOU DO NOT TAKE THE WRONG PATH.
RATTLE
KLK

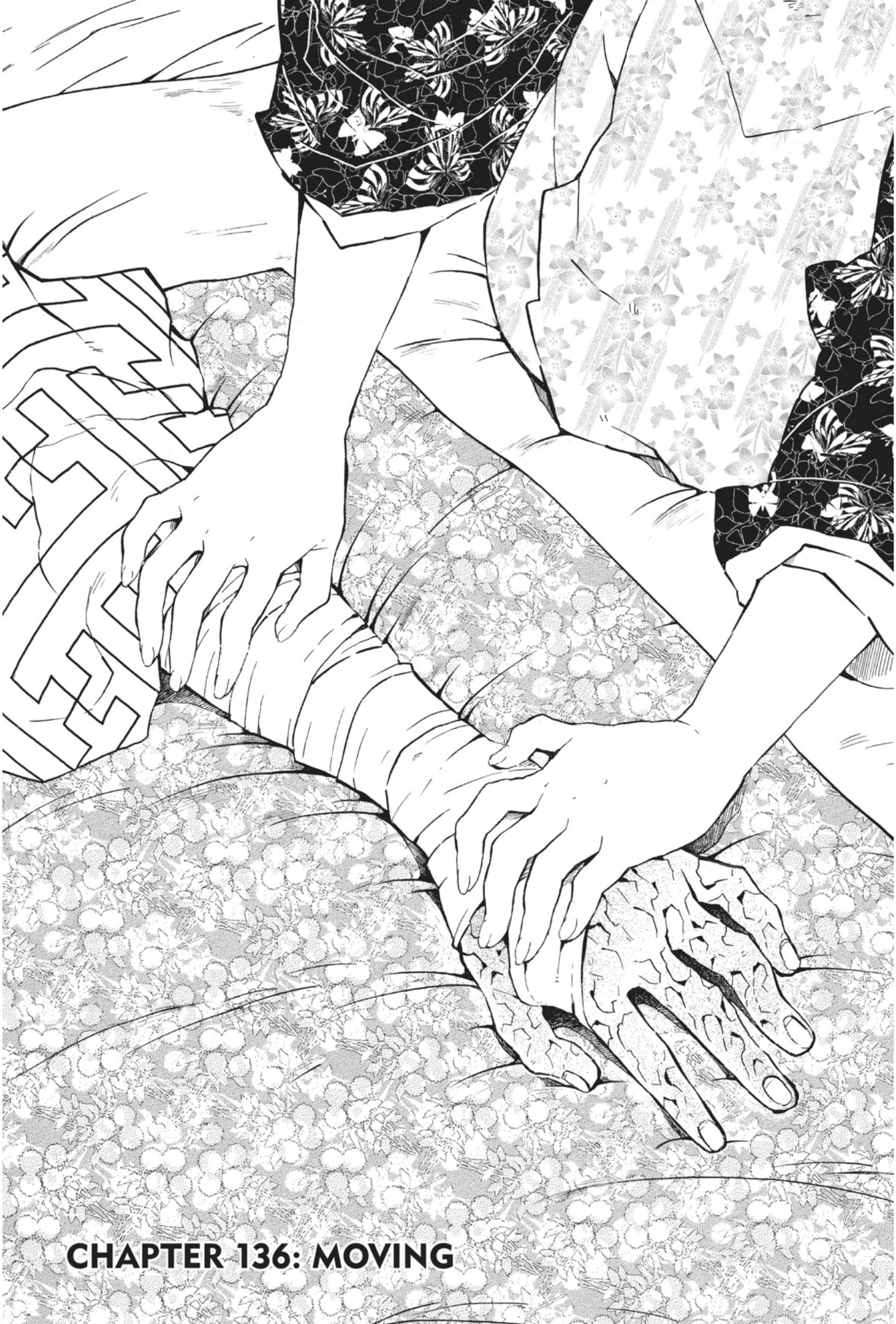
SWIP
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
...
UGH
...
I'LL DO MY BEST.


HEH HEH HEH!
SHF
SHF

GOOD JOB SEEING IT THROUGH.
YOUR TRAINING WITH ME IS COMPLETE.

Sayo's Story

According to Sayo's account of the demon attack, "that man," was a "monster" who killed everyone, but by "that man," she meant the demon who snuck into the temple, not Himejima. However, the demon had burned up in the morning sun, and Sayo couldn't speak properly due to shock from the incident, so she couldn't dispel the suspicion that fell on Himejima. Even now, at age 14, Sayo worries about that and wishes she could apologize.



CHAPTER 136: MOVING

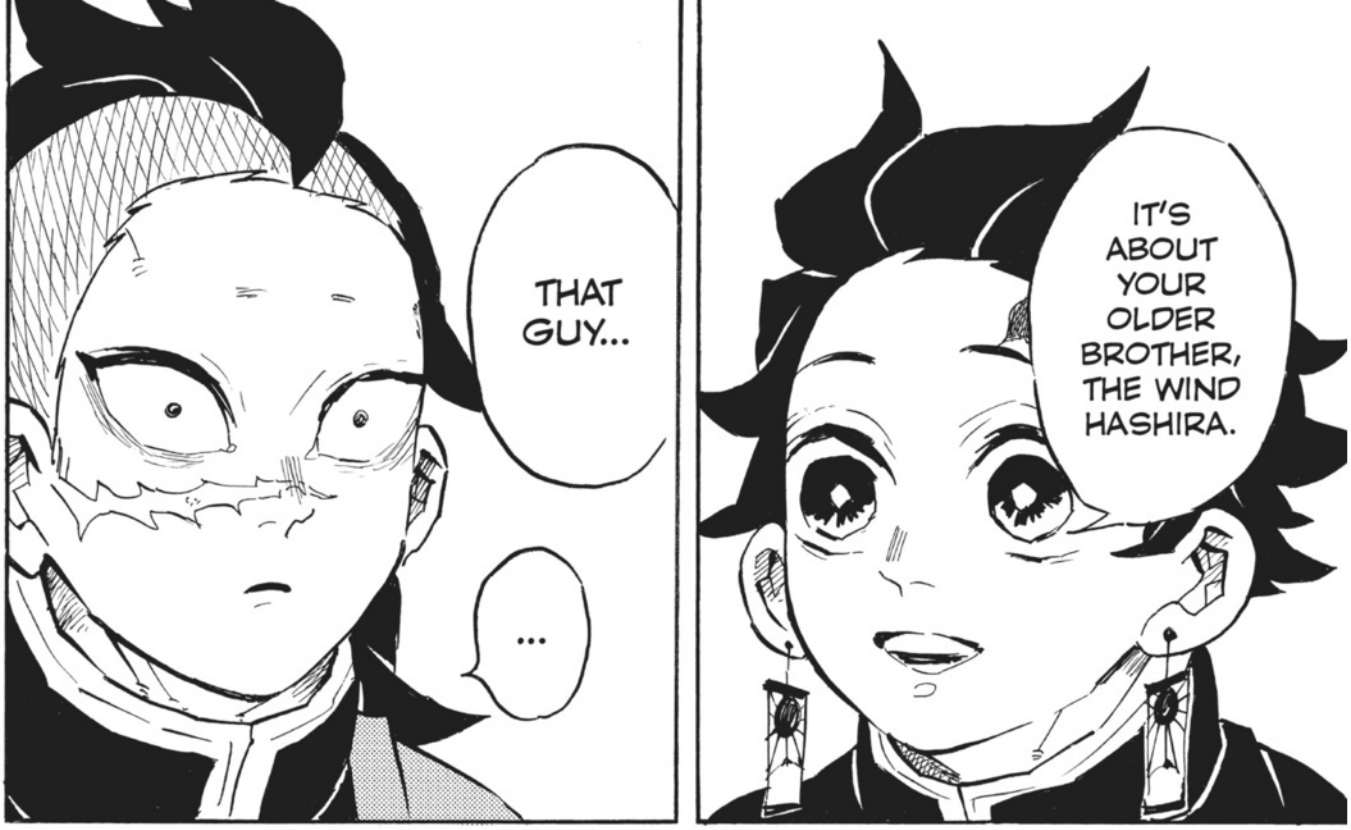
DESPITE EVERY-THING, HIMEJIMA IS A GOOD PERSON.
HE SAID HE WOULDN'T MAKE ME HIS TSUGUKO BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE ANY TALENT...
...BUT HE GUESSED I WAS EATING DEMONS AND MADE ME HIS APPRENTICE.

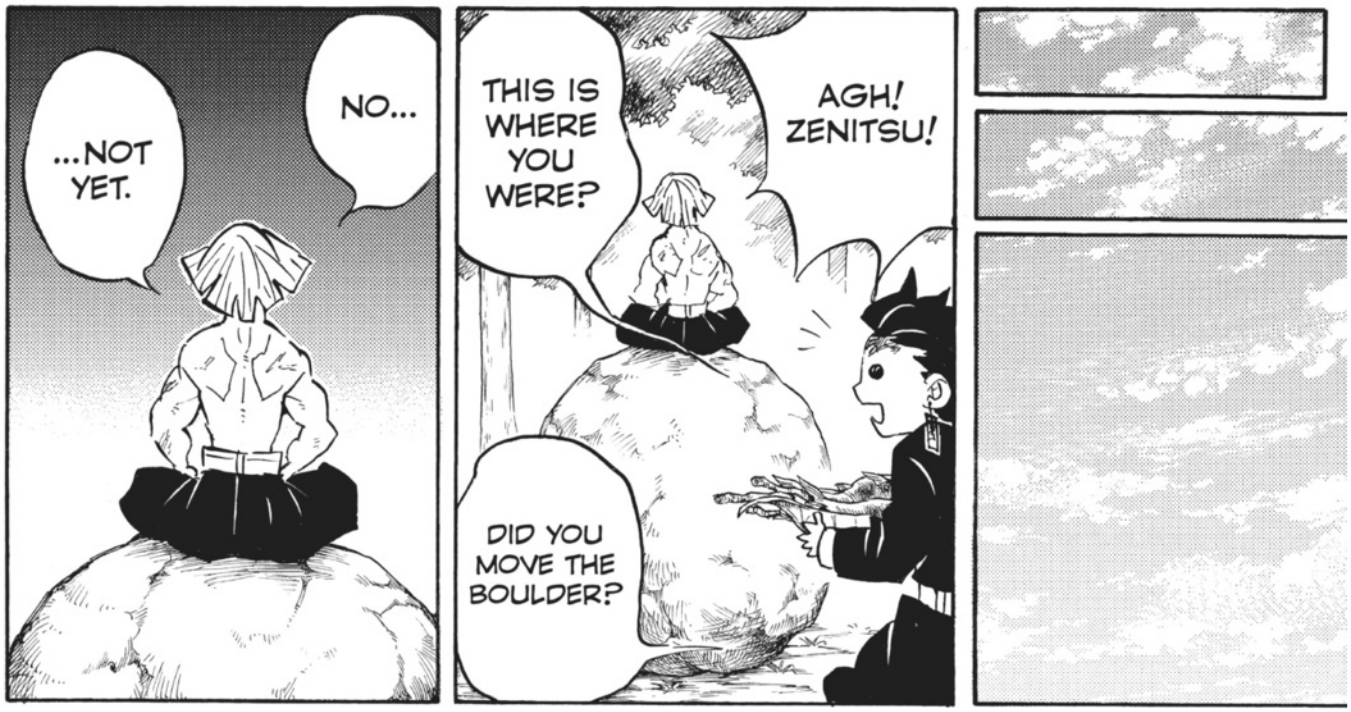
HE TOLD ME TO GET MYSELF EXAMINED AND INTRODUCED ME TO KOCHO.
OH, REALLY?
SNARF
KOCHO MADE A REALLY DISPLEASED FACE. EVERY TIME WE MEET SHE LECTURES ME.
SNARF

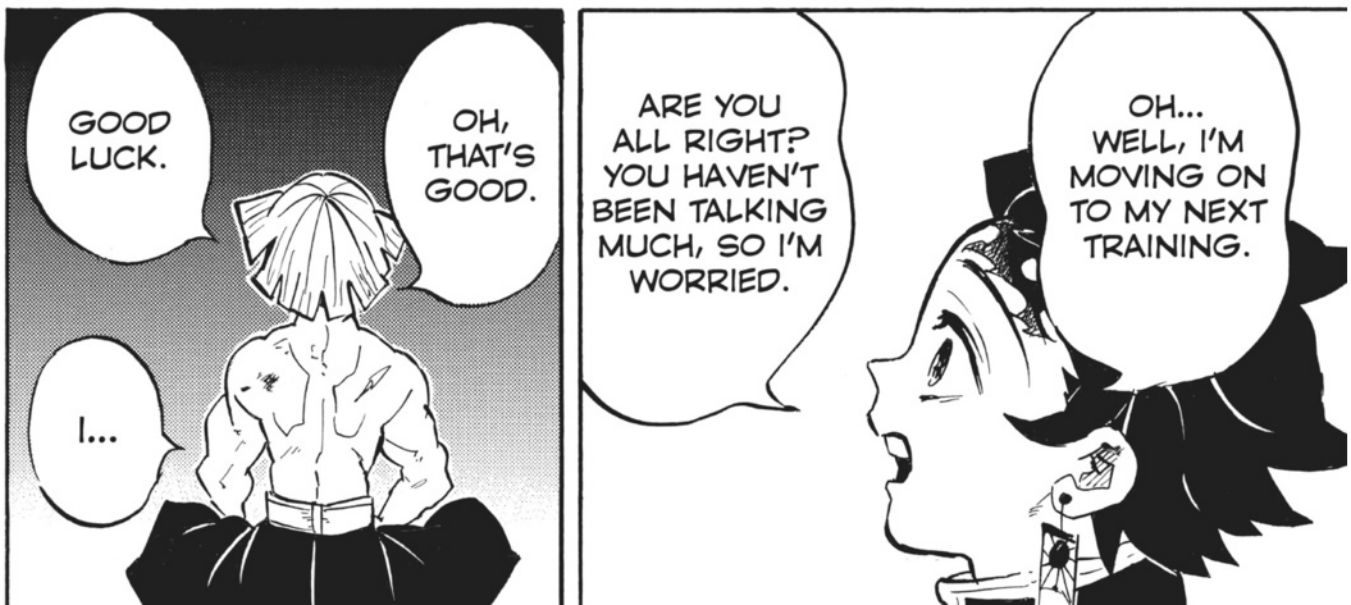
I'D HAVE BEEN THE SAME IF I COULDN'T USE BREATHING.
ARE YOU FEELING ALL RIGHT?

YOU LOOK PRETTY STUBBORN TOO, SO I THOUGHT SHE'D GIVE YOU AN EARFUL...
SLURP
...BUT SHE DIDN'T GRUMBLE MUCH.

AFTER I EAT THIS, I'M GOING TO SEE GIYU. WANT TO COME?
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
I BET SHINOBU IS WORRIED ABOUT YOUR HEALTH TOO.
YEAH!
YOU WUSS !!
HA HA HA HA! YOU CAN'T USE BREATH-ING?
GEH HA HA HA
I'M ALMOST THERE!!
NO, I CAN'T. I STILL HAVEN'T MOVED THE BOULDER ONE CHO...
... BECAUSE I CAN'T USE BREATH-ING.
GRRRRRAH
TELL ME WHAT?
IF YOU WERE COMING WITH ME, I WAS GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING ON THE WAY.
GET OFFA ME!
HEY, STOP THAT!
GYAAAH


THAT GUY...
...
IT'S ABOUT YOUR OLDER BROTHER, THE WIND HASHIRA.


NO...
...NOT YET.
THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE?
AGH! ZENITSU!
DID YOU MOVE THE BOULDER?

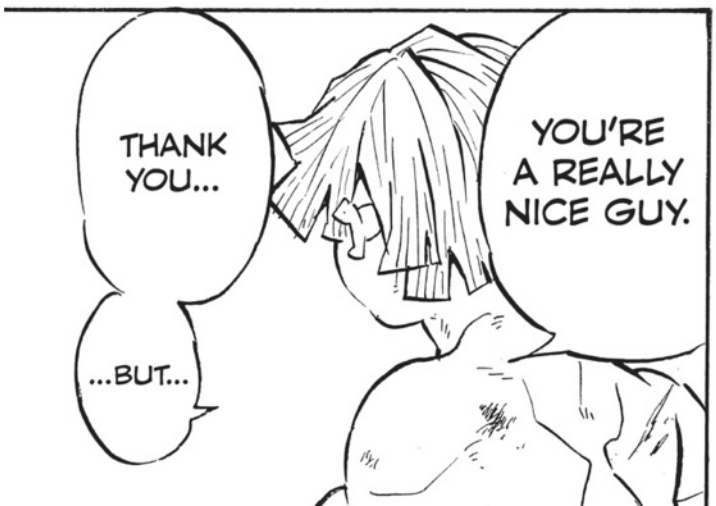

GOOD LUCK.
OH, THAT'S GOOD.
I...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TALKING MUCH, SO I'M WORRIED.
OH... WELL, I'M MOVING ON TO MY NEXT TRAINING.

I'VE SIMPLY ACHIEVED CLARITY...
...ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD DO. WHAT I *MUST* DO.

BUT...
BUT...
...I'M WORRIED.

TANJIRO, *YOU* JUST DO WHAT *YOU* MUST.

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO, I'LL...


THANK YOU...
YOU'RE A REALLY NICE GUY.
...BUT...

FIDGET
FIDGET

...THIS IS SOMETHING I ABSOLUTELY MUST DO.

IS ZENITSU ALL RIGHT?
AND NEZUKO?
WAAH
CAN I JUST LEAVE HER THERE FOR SO LONG?
IS SHE LONELY?

*STONE: THOUSAND-YEAR BAMBOO FOREST

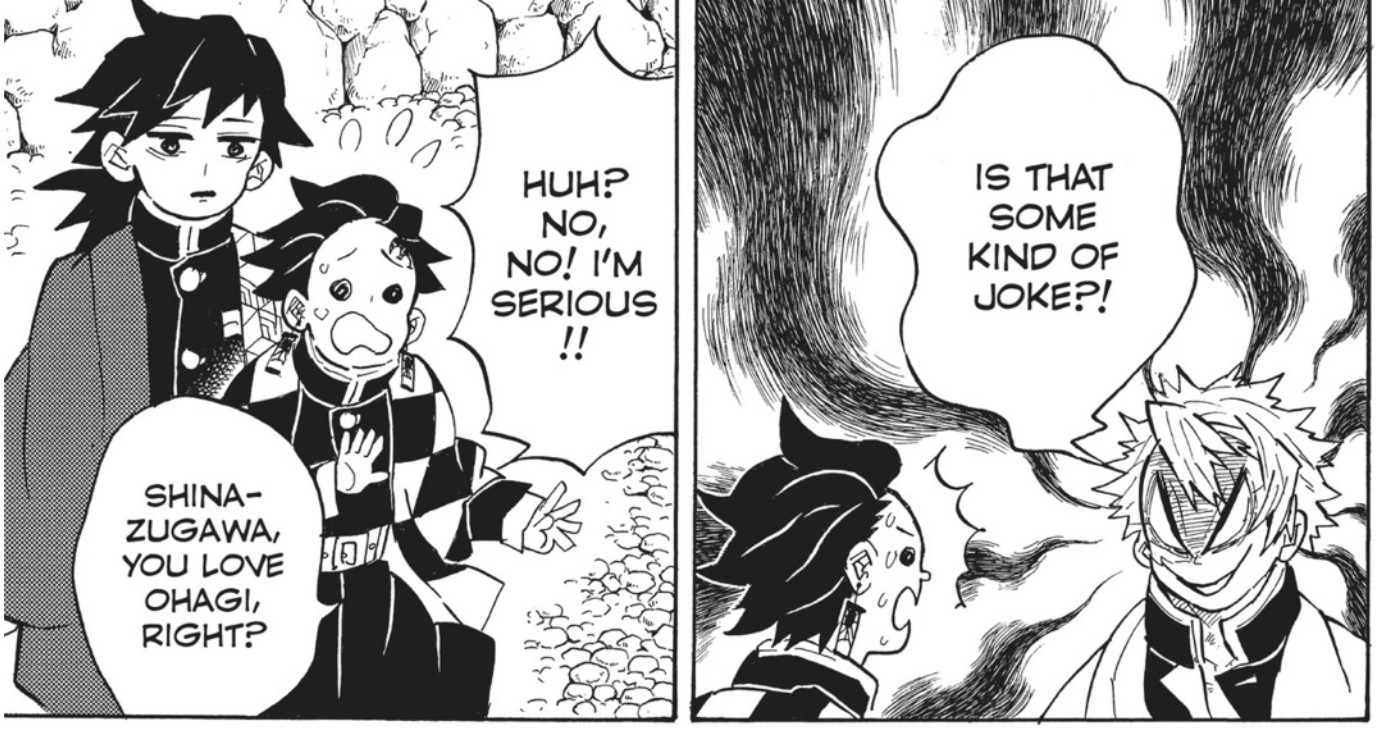
FIRST FORM:
WIND BREATHING
DUST WHIRL-WIND CUTTER!

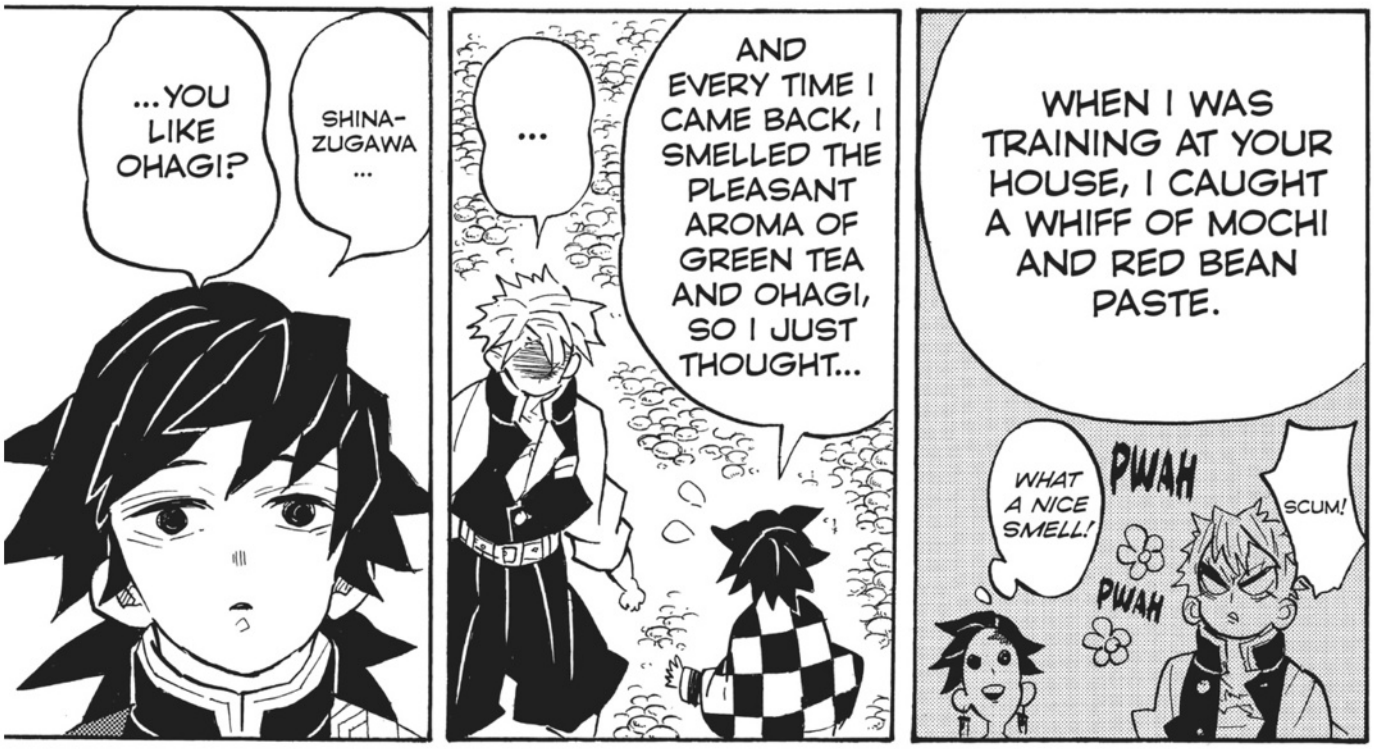
KRAK
AH...
HE'S SO FAST !!!
BUT I CAN SEE IT!! I CAN FOLLOW THE MOVEMENT!!
...THAT'S NOT WHAT HE MEANT!
BUT...
AREN'T YOU DIFFERENT THAN US?!
HEY! HEY! WHAT'S THE DEAL?!
WATER BREATHING
FOURTH FORM:

STRIKING TIDE!
TOO LATE!!
WATER BREATHING
SEVENTH FORM:
WIND BREATHING
FIFTH FORM:

DROP RIPPLE THRUST!
COLD MOUNTAIN WIND!
KRA KRAK

*A KIND OF JAPANESE SWEET


HUH? NO, NO! I'M SERIOUS !!
SHINA-ZUGAWA, YOU LOVE OHAGI, RIGHT?
IS THAT SOME KIND OF JOKE?!

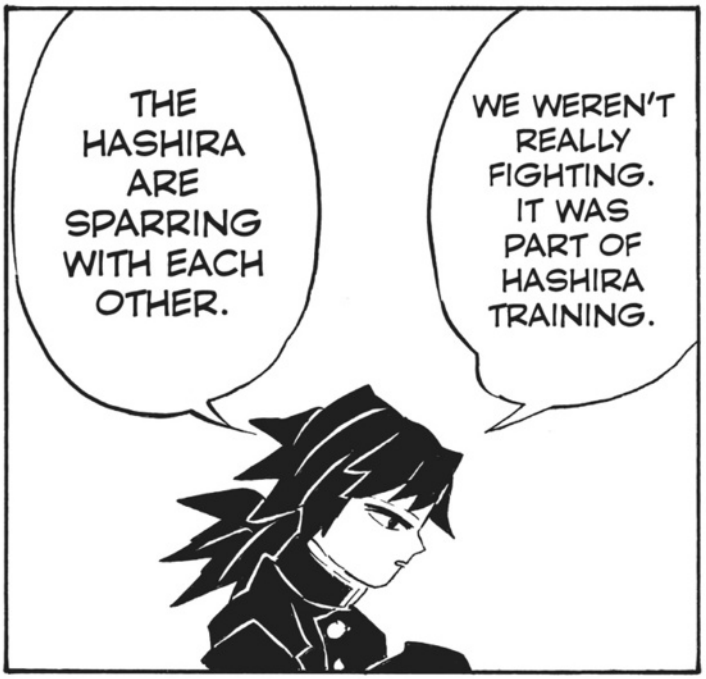

...YOU LIKE OHAGI?
SHINA-ZUGAWA ...
...
AND EVERY TIME I CAME BACK, I SMELLED THE PLEASANT AROMA OF GREEN TEA AND OHAGI, SO I JUST THOUGHT...
WHEN I WAS TRAINING AT YOUR HOUSE, I CAUGHT A WHIFF OF MOCHI AND RED BEAN PASTE.
WHAT A NICE SMELL!
PWAH
PWAH
SCUM!

I LOVED MY GRAND-MOTHER'S OHAGI AND—
DO YOU PREFER IT COARSE OR FINE?
OHAGI IS TASTY, RIGHT?

KA
POW
GIYU!
HUH ?!
WAP
WHAT THE...?!

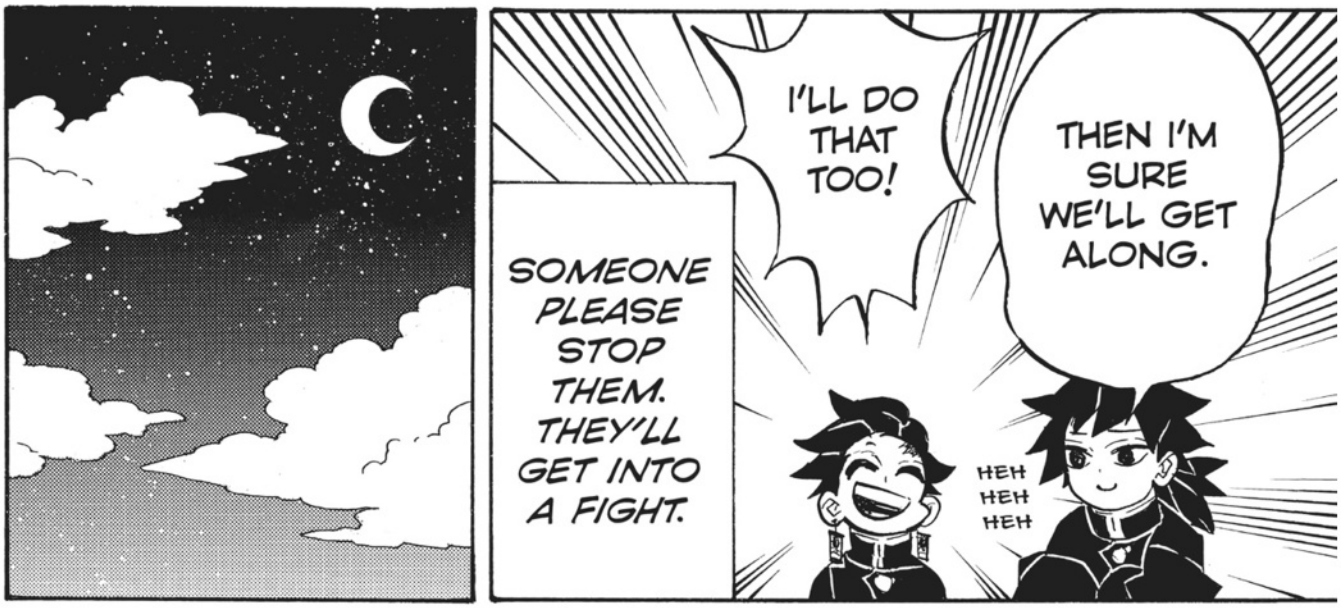
OH, HE DID?
WHY WERE YOU FIGHT-ING?
SHINA-ZUGAWA GOT ANGRY AND WENT OFF SOME-WHERE.

...YOU WERE USING WOODEN SWORDS. RIGHT, RIGHT...
OH, SO THAT'S WHY...
REALLY?
BAM


THE HASHIRA ARE SPARRING WITH EACH OTHER.
WE WEREN'T REALLY FIGHTING. IT WAS PART OF HASHIRA TRAINING.

I COULDN'T EXPRESS MYSELF WELL AND SHINA-ZUGAWA WAS MAD THE WHOLE TIME...
...BUT AT LEAST I LEARNED WHAT FOOD HE LIKES.
NO, THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
SORRY FOR INTERFER-ING.

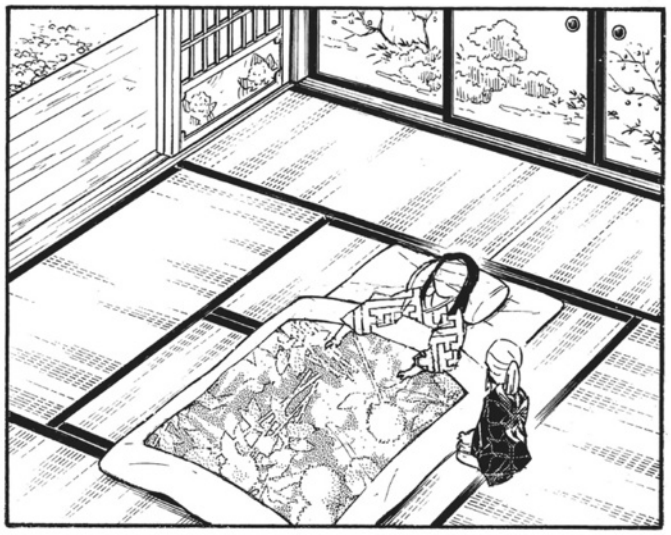
FWAH
FWAH
FWAH
NEXT TIME, I'LL KEEP AN OHAGI IN MY POCKET...
...AND GIVE IT TO SHINA-ZUGAWA WHEN WE MEET.
OH!
GOOD IDEA!

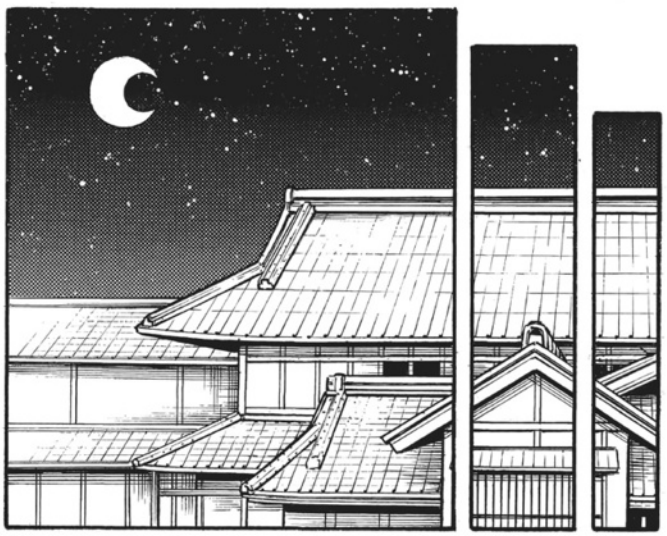

THEN I'M SURE WE'LL GET ALONG.
I'LL DO THAT TOO!
HEH HEH HEH
SOMEONE PLEASE STOP THEM. THEY'LL GET INTO A FIGHT.

DASH
DASH
TCH!

THAT BRAT'S TOTALLY NUTS!
ARGH! WHAT'S WITH THAT KID?!
SNAP
RUSTLE

GL
OA
WHAT'S THIS?



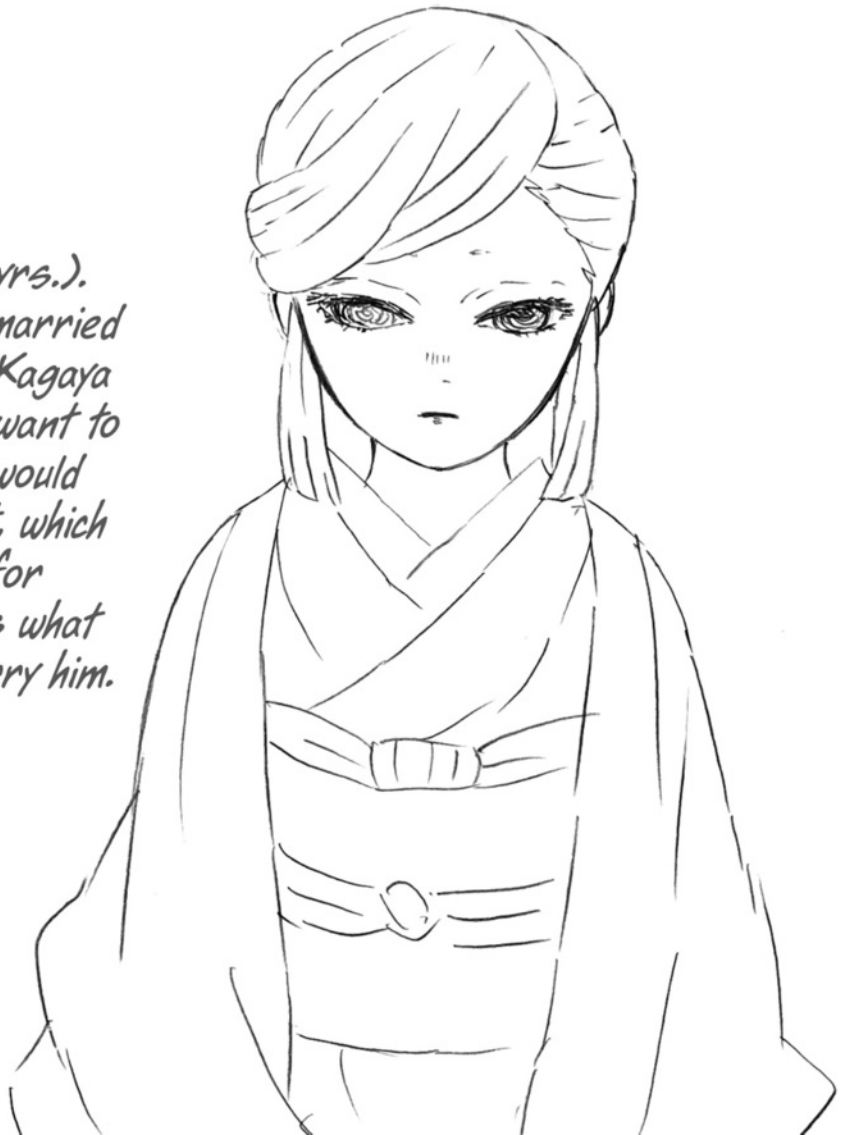


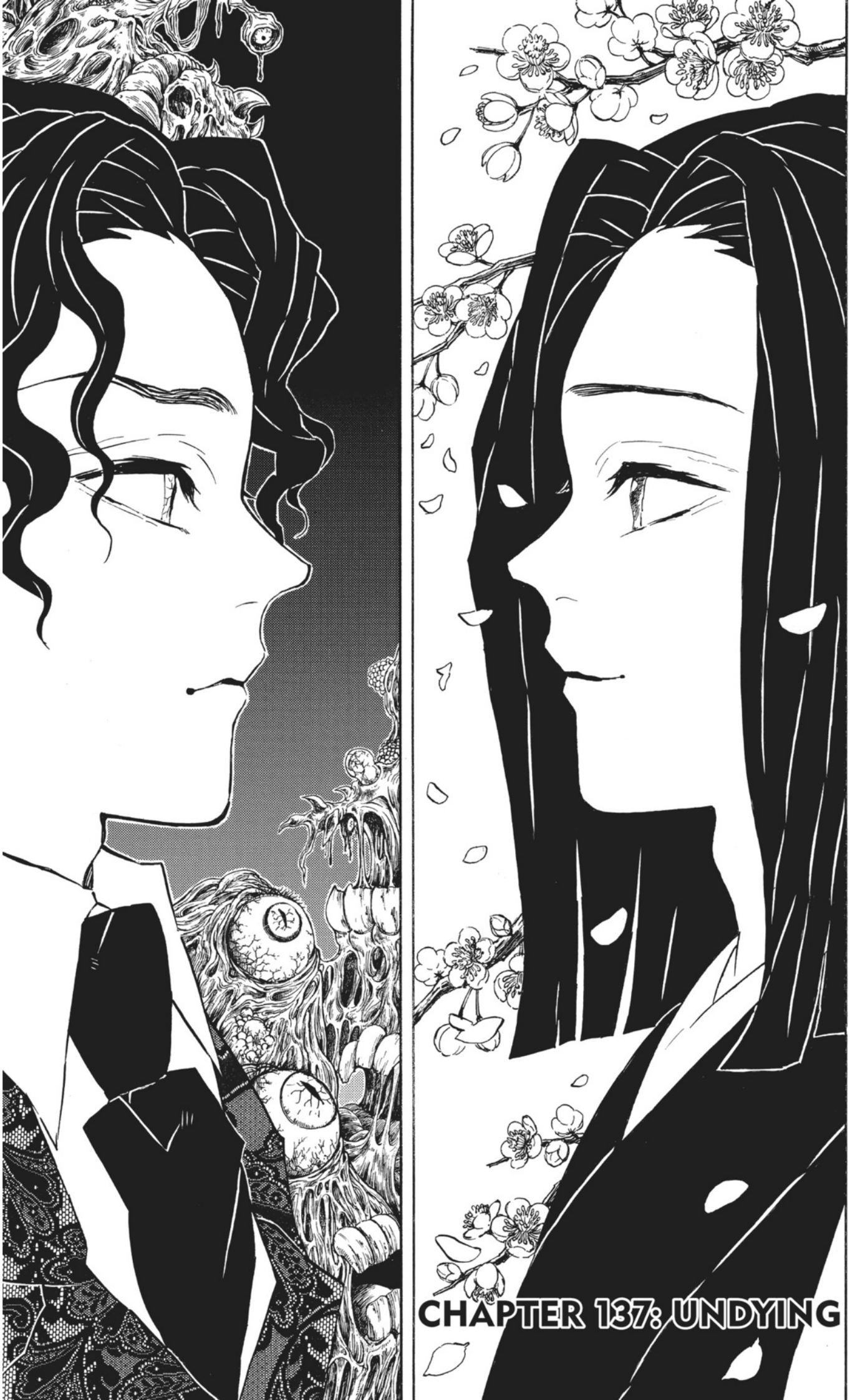
HELLO.
YOU CAME.

WHEEN
IT IS OUR FIRST MEETING...
WHEEN
... MUZAN ...
... KIBUT-SUJI.

YOU ARE...
...IN AN UNSIGHTLY CONDI-TION...
... UBUYASHIKI.

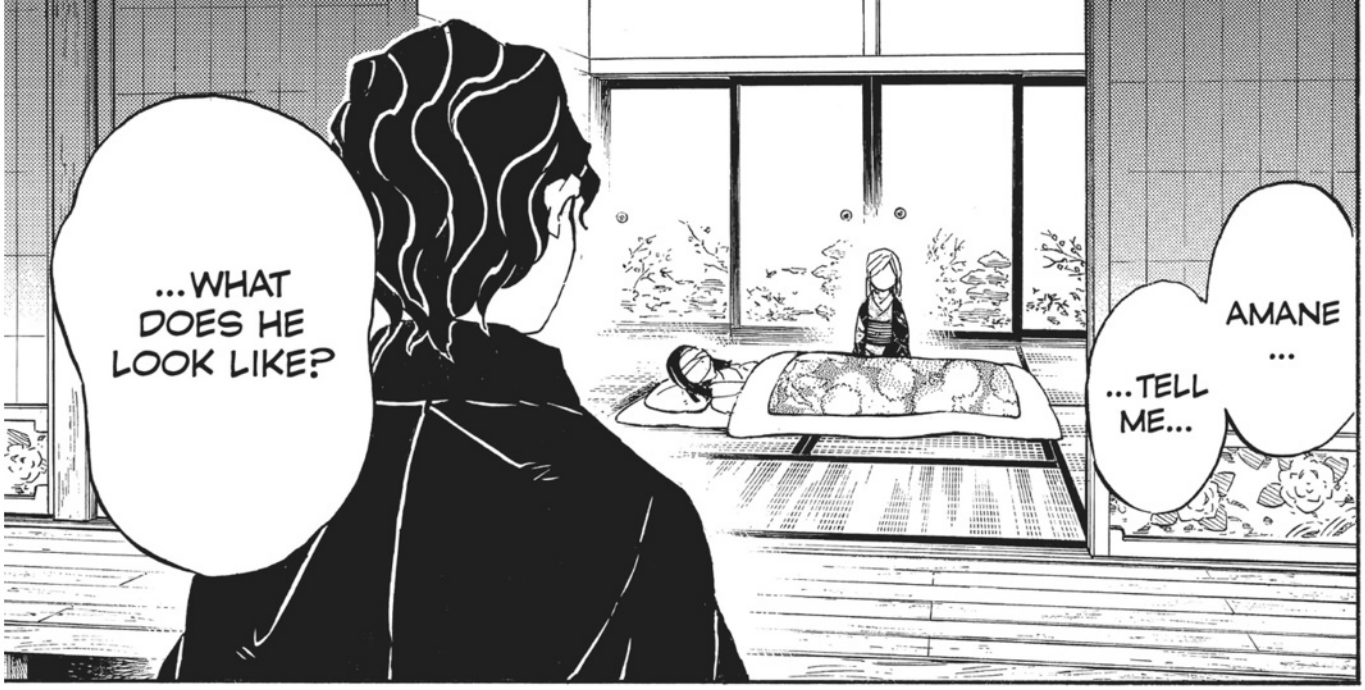
Amane Ubuyashiki (27 yrs.). She was 17 when she married a 13-year-old Kagaya. Kagaya said that if she didn't want to marry him, he himself would refuse. This statement, which showed consideration for her circumstances, was what made her decide to marry him.

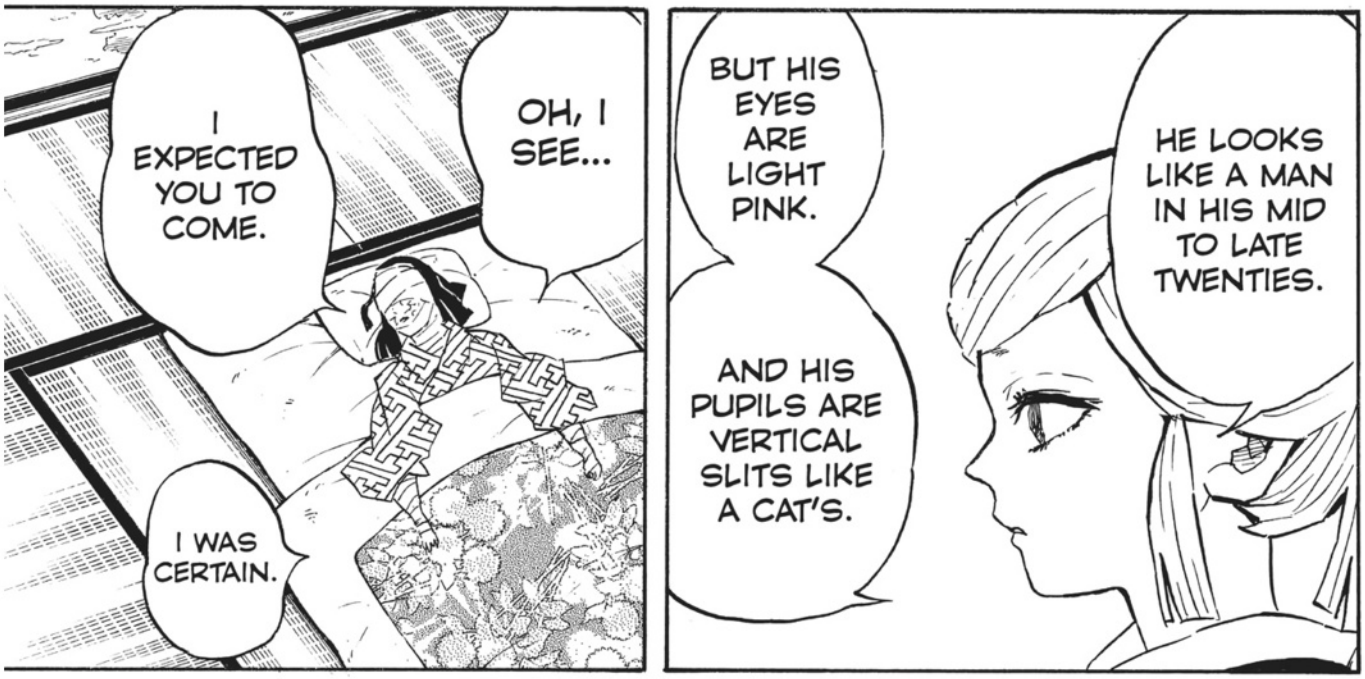


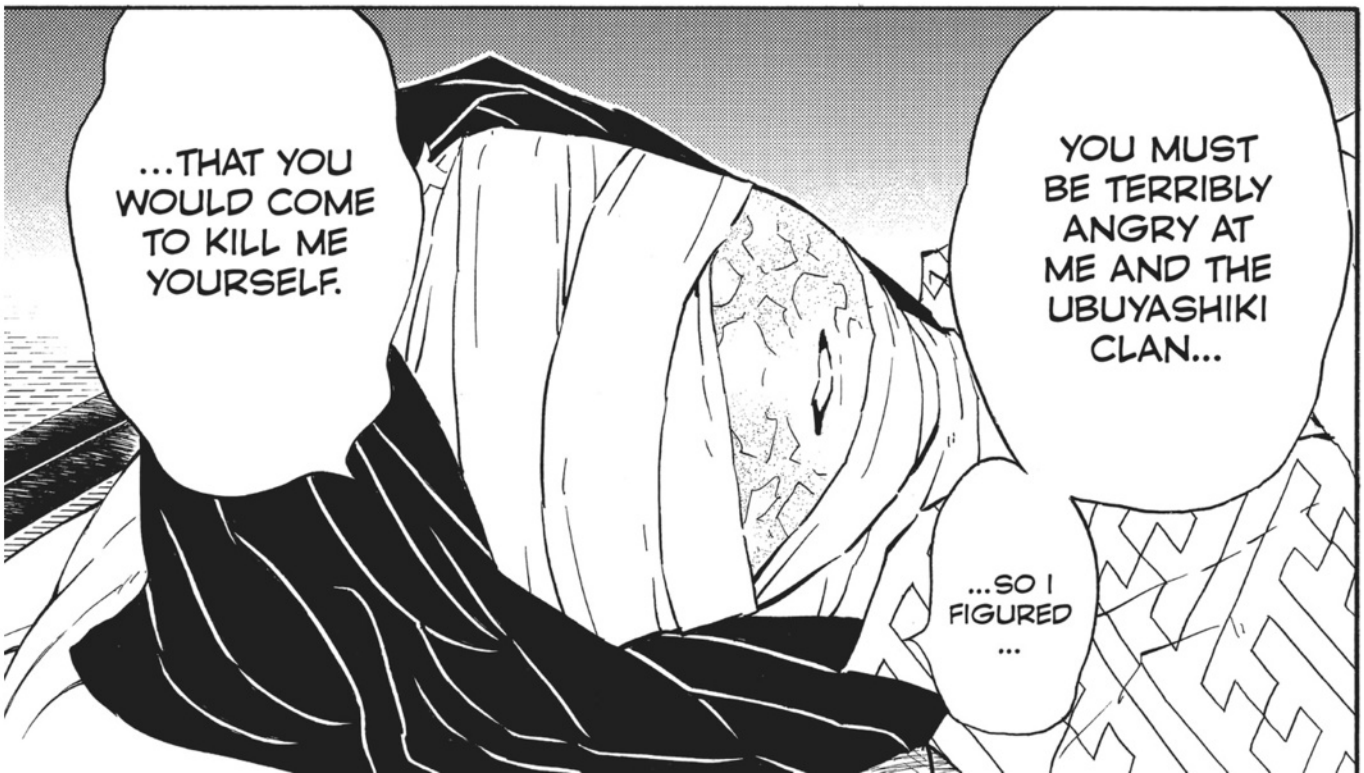

CHAPTER 137: UNDYING

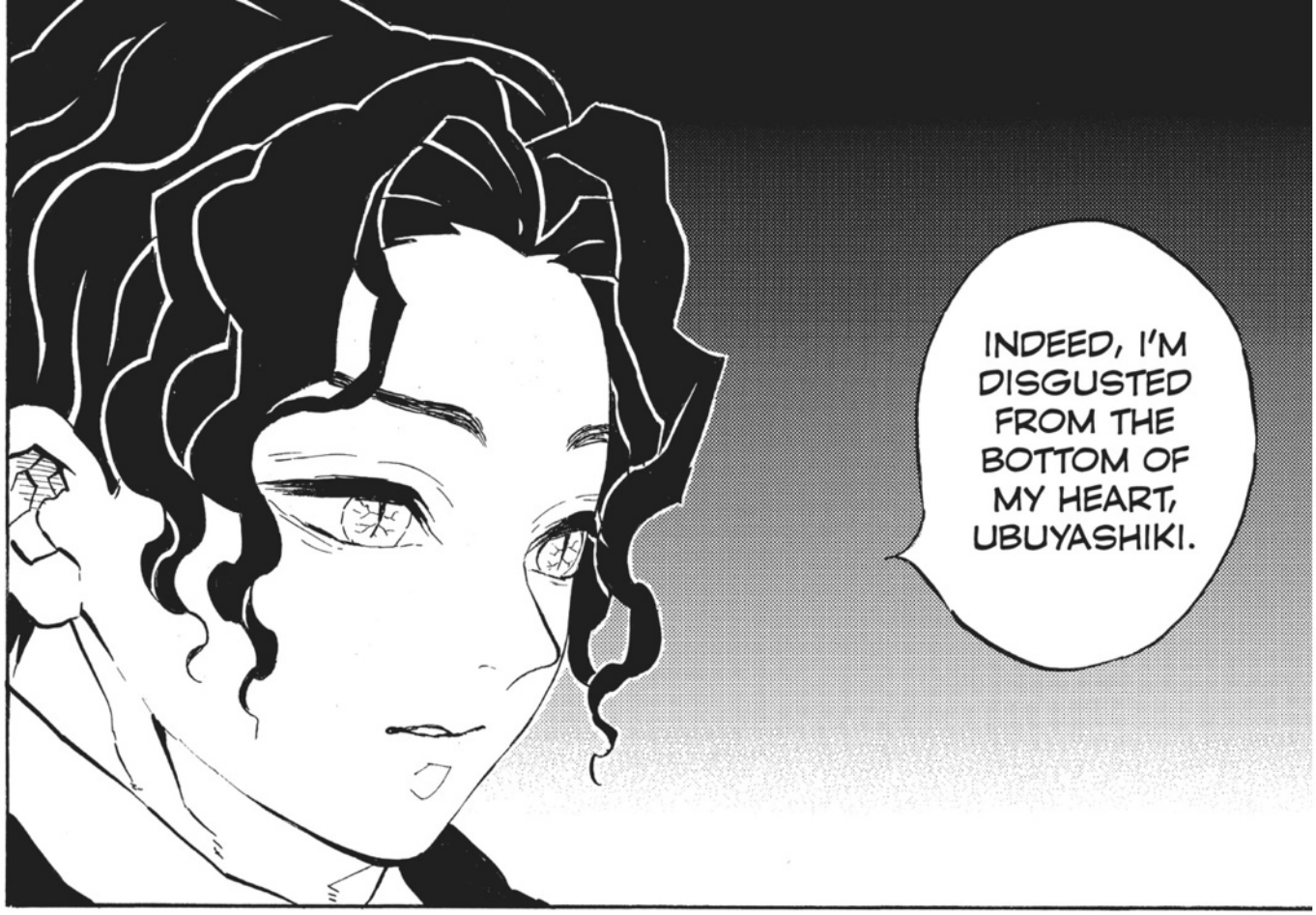
FINALLY... YOU HAVE COME TO ME.
YOU ARE NOW... BEFORE MY VERY EYES...
...MUZAN KIBUTSUJI.

YOU ARE THE DEMON THAT OUR CLAN...
...HAS PURSUED FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.
...THE DEMON SLAYERS ...

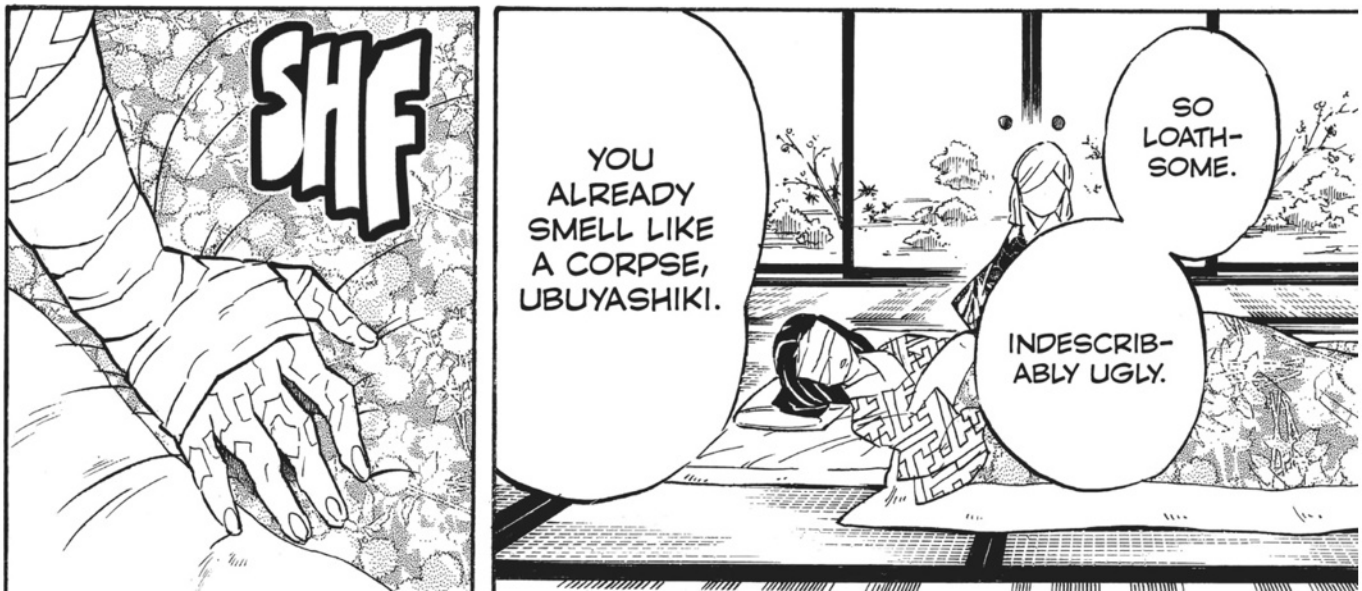

AMANE...
...TELL ME...
...WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE?

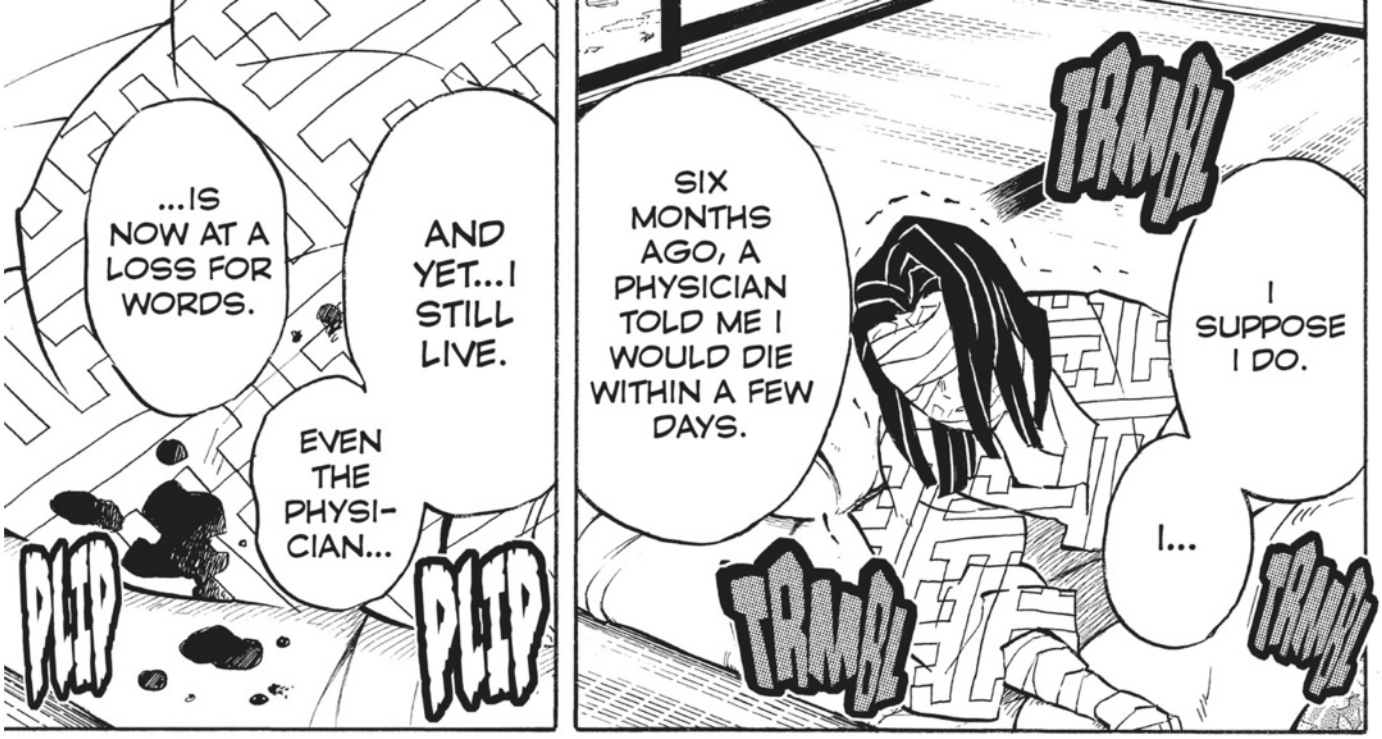

HE LOOKS LIKE A MAN IN HIS MID TO LATE TWENTIES.
BUT HIS EYES ARE LIGHT PINK.
AND HIS PUPILS ARE VERTICAL SLITS LIKE A CAT'S.
OH, I SEE...
I EXPECTED YOU TO COME.
I WAS CERTAIN.

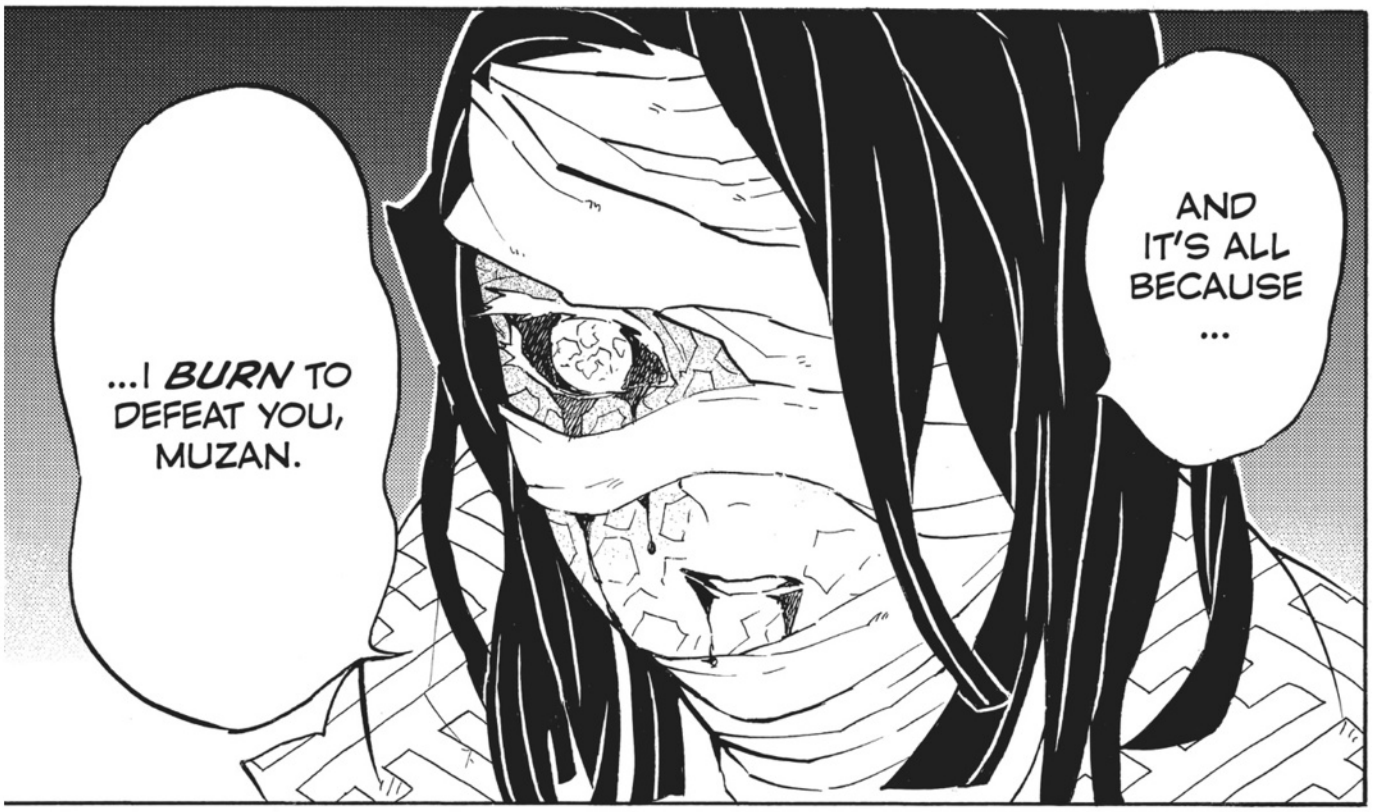

YOU MUST BE TERRIBLY ANGRY AT ME AND THE UBUYASHIKI CLAN...
...SO I FIGURED...
...THAT YOU WOULD COME TO KILL ME YOURSELF.

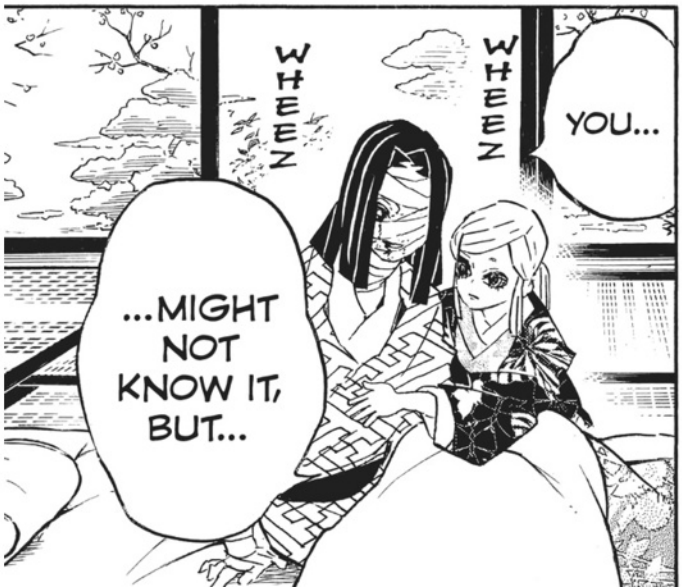

INDEED, I'M DISGUSTED FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, UBUYASHIKI.

FOR A THOUSAND YEARS, YOUR CLAN HAS NEVER KNOWN ITS PLACE...
...AND HAS INTERFERED WITH ME CONSTANTLY, BUT NOW I FIND ITS LEADER IN THIS STATE.


SHF
YOU ALREADY SMELL LIKE A CORPSE, UBUYASHIKI.
SO LOATH-SOME.
INDESCRIB-ABLY UGLY.

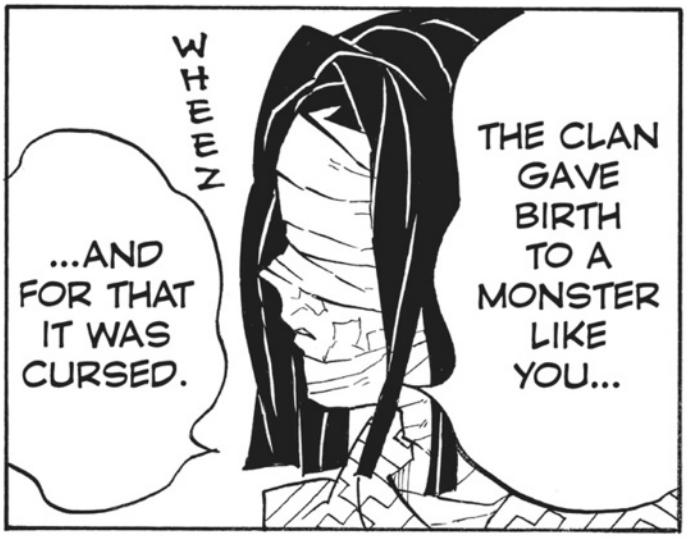

...IS NOW AT A LOSS FOR WORDS.
AND YET...I STILL LIVE.
EVEN THE PHYSI-CIAN...
PLIP
PLIP
SIX MONTHS AGO, A PHYSICIAN TOLD ME I WOULD DIE WITHIN A FEW DAYS.
TRMBL
I SUPPOSE I DO.
I...
TRMBL
TRMBL


...I *BURN* TO DEFEAT YOU, MUZAN.
AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE ...


...MIGHT NOT KNOW IT, BUT...
YOU...
WHEEZ
WHEEZ

I'M GOING TO KILL YOU NOW.
AND TONIGHT THAT FRAGILE DREAM SHATTERS.

...YOU AND I ARE OF THE SAME BLOOD-LINE.
HOWEVER, I SUPPOSE SINCE YOU WERE BORN OVER A THOUSAND YEARS AGO...
...WE AREN'T CLOSELY RELATED.

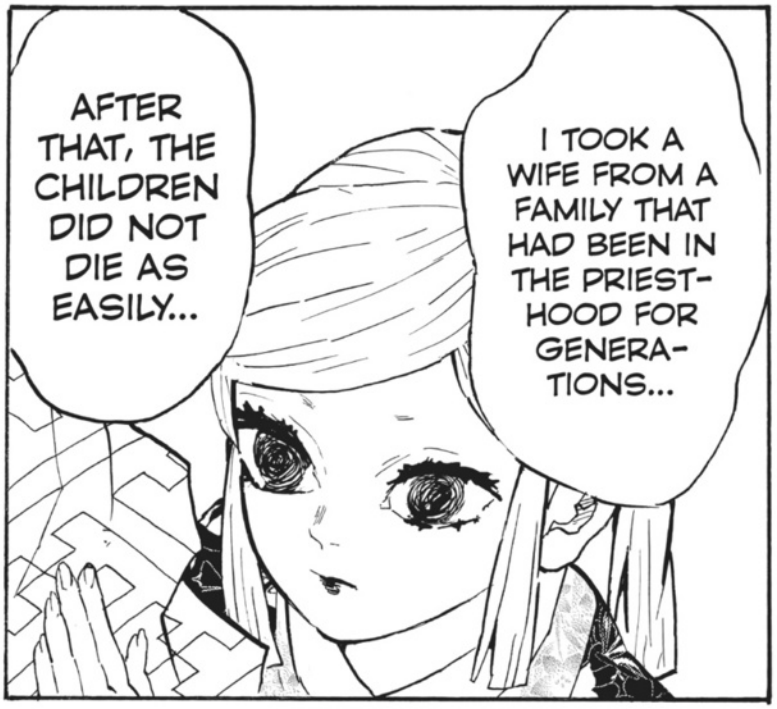

THE CLAN GAVE BIRTH TO A MONSTER LIKE YOU...
WHEEZ
...AND FOR THAT IT WAS CURSED.

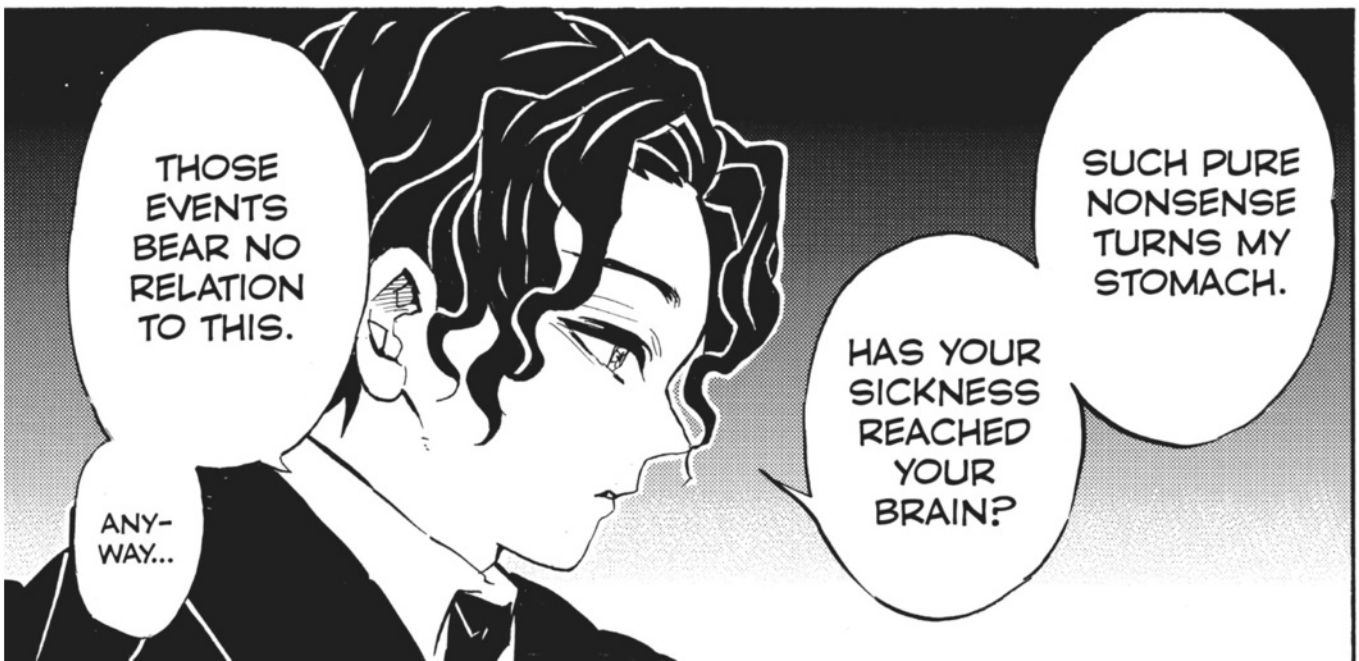
I DO NOT FEEL ANYTHING ABOUT THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

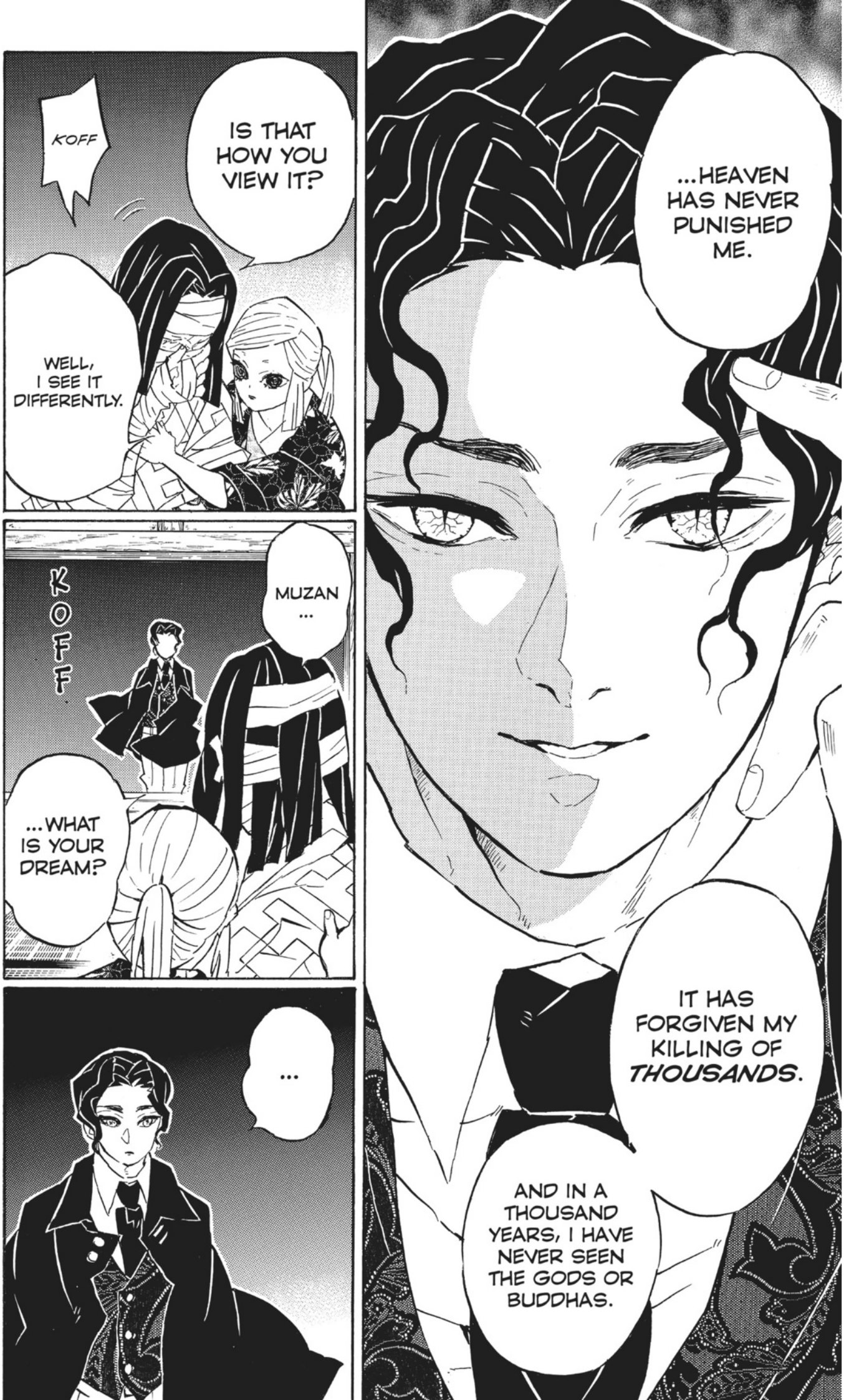
ALL OF THE CHILDREN BORN TO THAT HOUSE WERE WEAK AND SOON DIED.
WHEN THE CLAN WAS ABOUT TO DIE OUT, A PRIEST OFFERED COUNSEL.

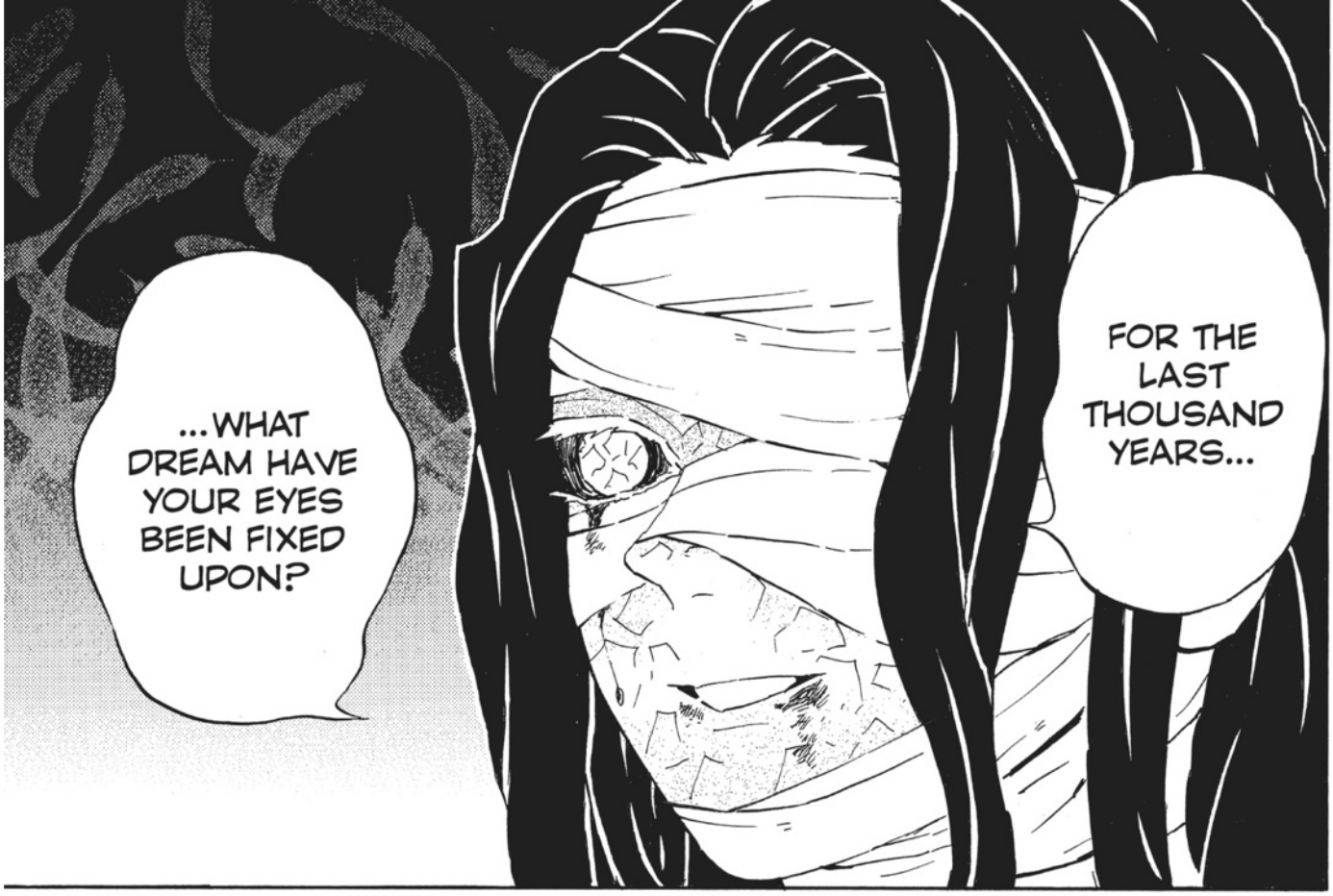
HE SAID A DEMON HAD COME FROM THE SAME BLOODLINE. THAT WE SHOULD DEDICATE OURSELVES TO DEFEATING HIM.
IF WE DID, THE BLOODLINE WOULD SURVIVE.

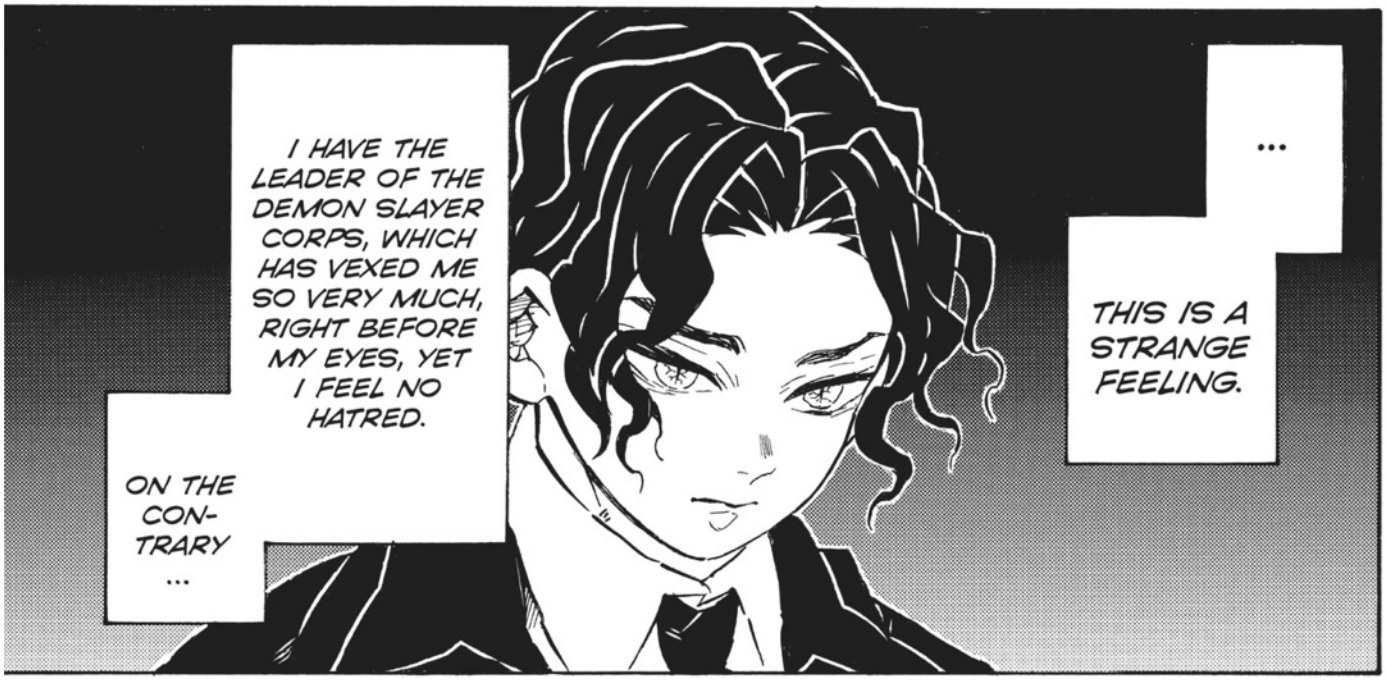
...BUT EVEN THEN, NO ONE IN OUR CLAN LIVED PAST 30.


I TOOK A WIFE FROM A FAMILY THAT HAD BEEN IN THE PRIEST-HOOD FOR GENERA-TIONS...
AFTER THAT, THE CHILDREN DID NOT DIE AS EASILY...


SUCH PURE NONSENSE TURNS MY STOMACH.
HAS YOUR SICKNESS REACHED YOUR BRAIN?
THOSE EVENTS BEAR NO RELATION TO THIS.
ANY-WAY...

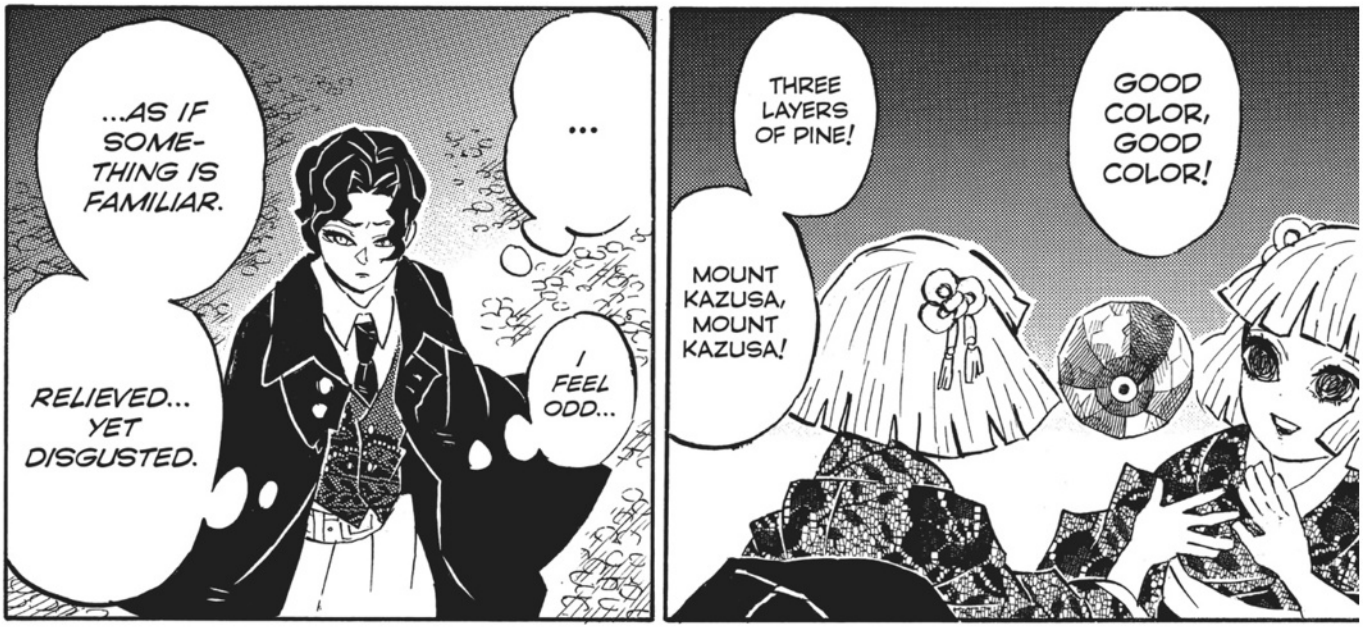

...HEAVEN HAS NEVER PUNISHED ME.
IT HAS FORGIVEN MY KILLING OF *THOUSANDS*.
AND IN A THOUSAND YEARS, I HAVE NEVER SEEN THE GODS OR BUDDHAS.
IS THAT HOW YOU VIEW IT?
KOFF
WELL, I SEE IT DIFFERENTLY.
MUZAN ...
KOFF
...WHAT IS YOUR DREAM?
...

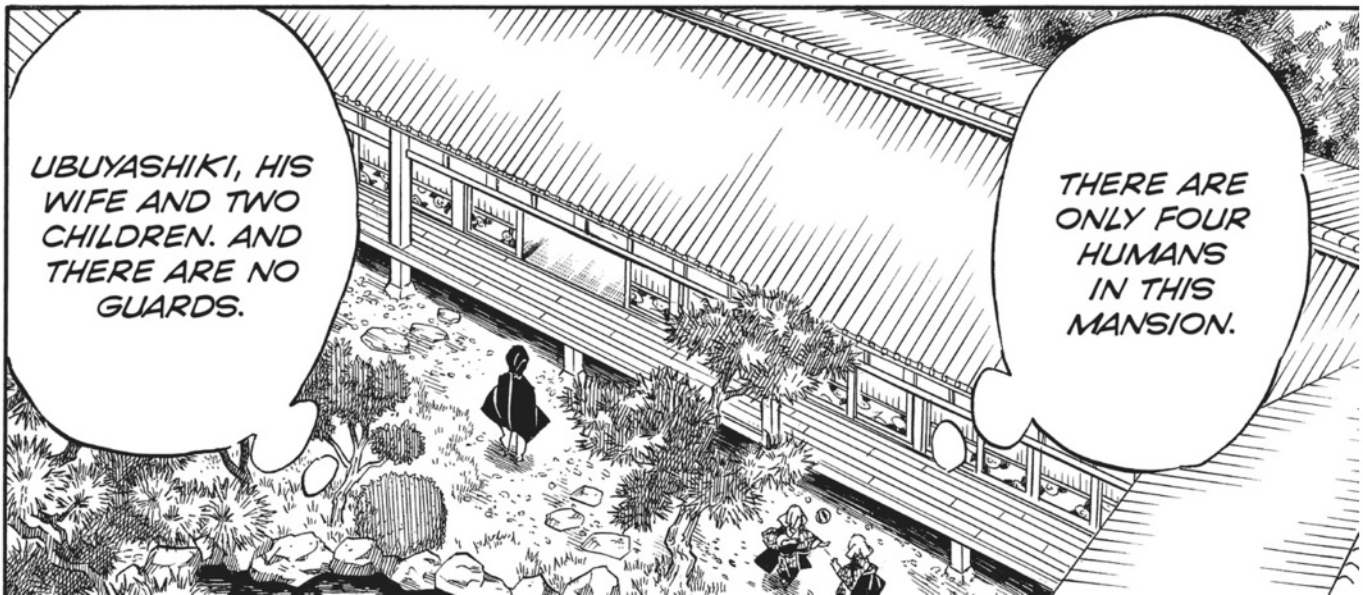

FOR THE LAST THOUSAND YEARS...
...WHAT DREAM HAVE YOUR EYES BEEN FIXED UPON?


...
THIS IS A STRANGE FEELING.
I HAVE THE LEADER OF THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS, WHICH HAS VEXED ME SO VERY MUCH, RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES, YET I FEEL NO HATRED.
ON THE CON-TRARY ...

ONE...
...IS FOR ONE NIGHT ENDING!
LIVELY! MERRY!

TWO IS FOR TWO PINE SPROUTS!
RAISE DECORA-TIONS!
BOMF
POMF
PINE DECORA-TIONS, PINE DECORA-TIONS!

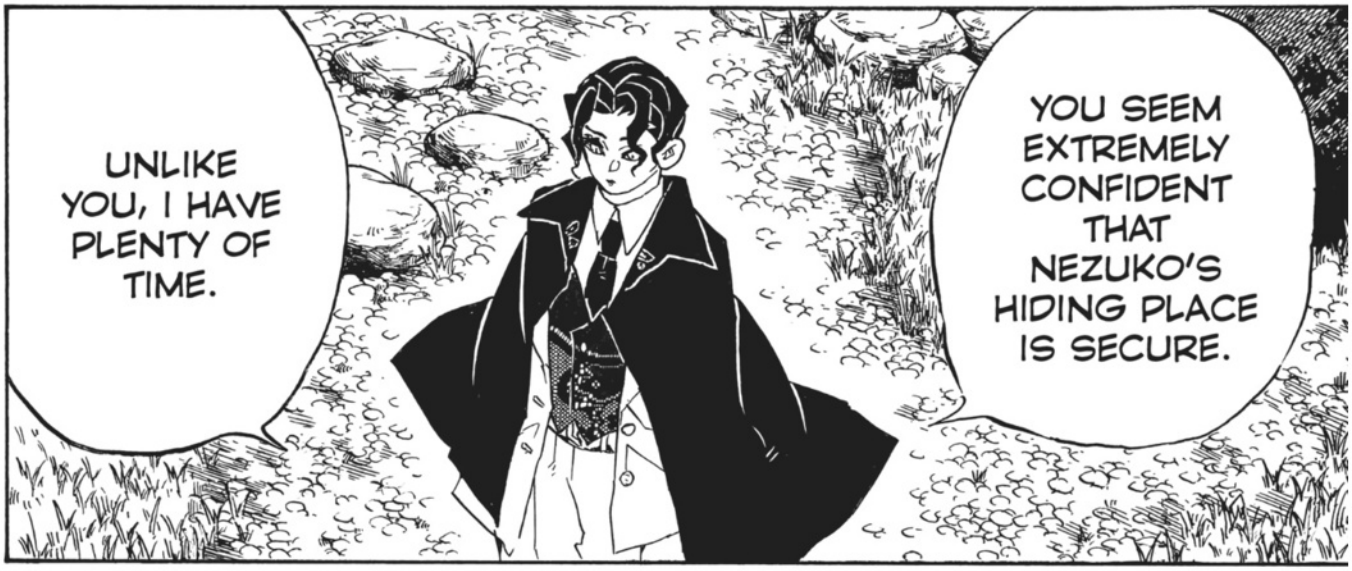

...
...AS IF SOME-THING IS FAMILIAR.
I FEEL ODD...
RELIEVED... YET DISGUSTED.
THREE LAYERS OF PINE!
GOOD COLOR, GOOD COLOR!
MOUNT KAZUSA, MOUNT KAZUSA!

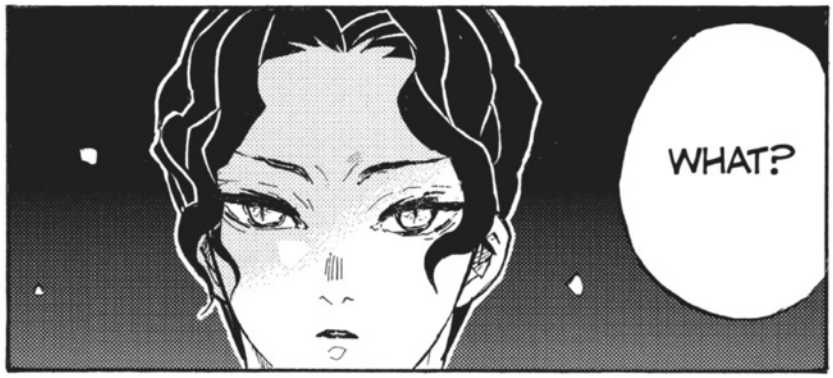

UBUYASHIKI, HIS WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN. AND THERE ARE NO GUARDS.
THERE ARE ONLY FOUR HUMANS IN THIS MANSION.

YOUR DREAM IS ETERNITY.
YOUR DREAM IS TO BE UNDYING.
TWITCH
SHALL I GUESS...
...MUZAN?
I CAN FATHOM YOUR HEART.

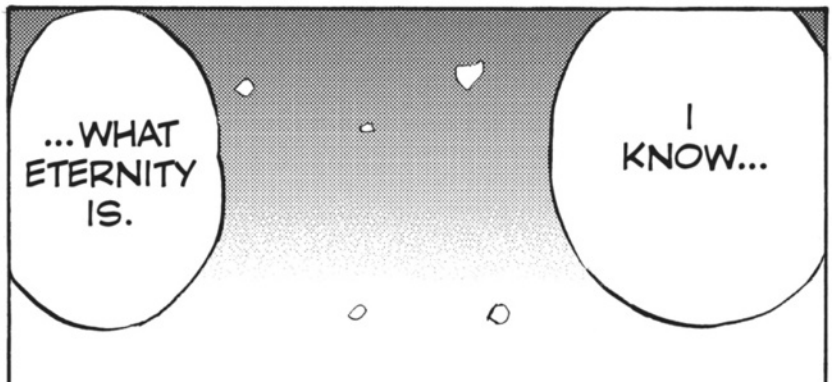
I MERELY NEED TO FIND NEZUKO.
...
THAT'S RIGHT. AND I WILL SOON ACHIEVE IT.

YOUR DREAM WILL NOT COME TRUE...
...
MUZAN.


YOU SEEM EXTREMELY CONFIDENT THAT NEZUKO'S HIDING PLACE IS SECURE.
UNLIKE YOU, I HAVE PLENTY OF TIME.


WHAT?

YOU HAVE MADE A MISTAKE.


I KNOW...
...WHAT ETERNITY IS.

ETERNITY IS HUMAN FEELING.
ONLY HUMAN FEELINGS LAST FOREVER...
...AND ARE UNDYING.

RUBBISH.
I RECOIL FROM YOUR WORDS.

FOR A THOUSAND YEARS, THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS HAS PERSEVERED.
MANY UNFORTUNATE CHILDREN HAVE DIED...
...BUT THEY ARE NOT GONE.

FEELINGS ARE UNDYING IN THEIR REFUSAL TO FORGIVE THOSE WHO UNJUSTLY STEAL THE LIVES OF THEIR LOVED ONES.
JUST NOW... YOU CALLED THAT RUBBISH.
NOT ONCE IN A THOUSAND YEARS.
AND *NO ONE* HAS FORGIVEN YOU.
BUT IT IS PROVEN THAT HUMAN FEELINGS ARE UNDYING.
...AND INVITED THE DRAGON'S WRATH.
FURTHER-MORE, MUZAN...
...YOU HAVE STEPPED ON THE TIGER'S TAIL OVER AND OVER...

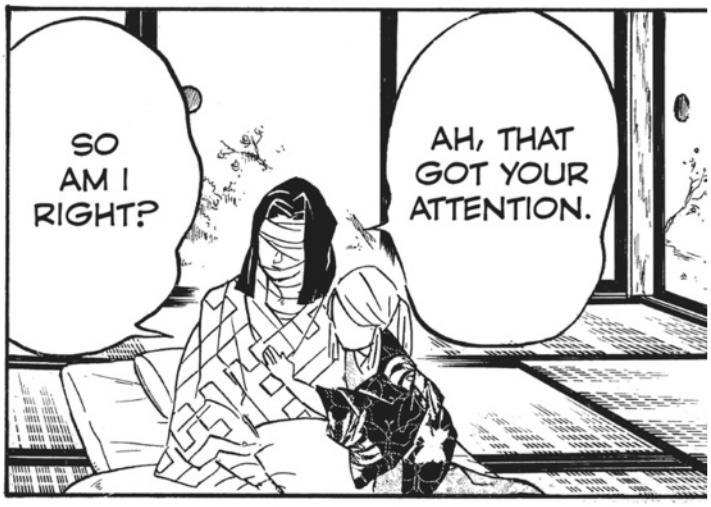
THEIR EYES ARE FIXED UPON YOU...
THEY WOULD HAVE REMAINED ASLEEP...
...AND THEY WILL NOT LET YOU ESCAPE.
...BUT YOU WOKE THEM UP.

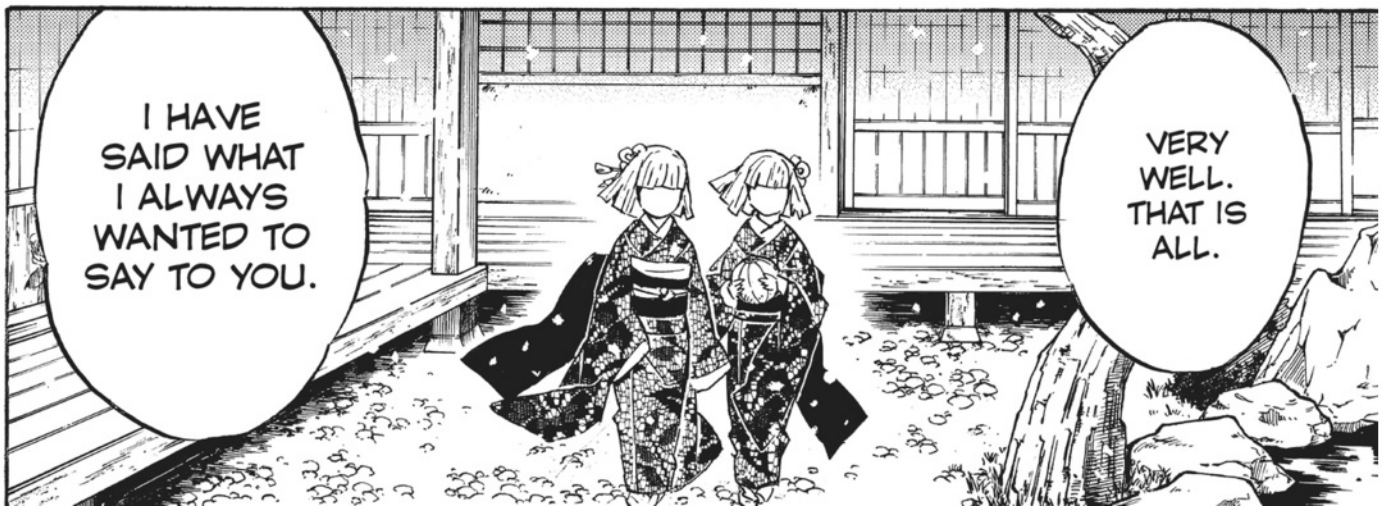
I MYSELF AM NOT THAT IMPORTANT.
KILLING ME WILL NOT HARM THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS ONE BIT.

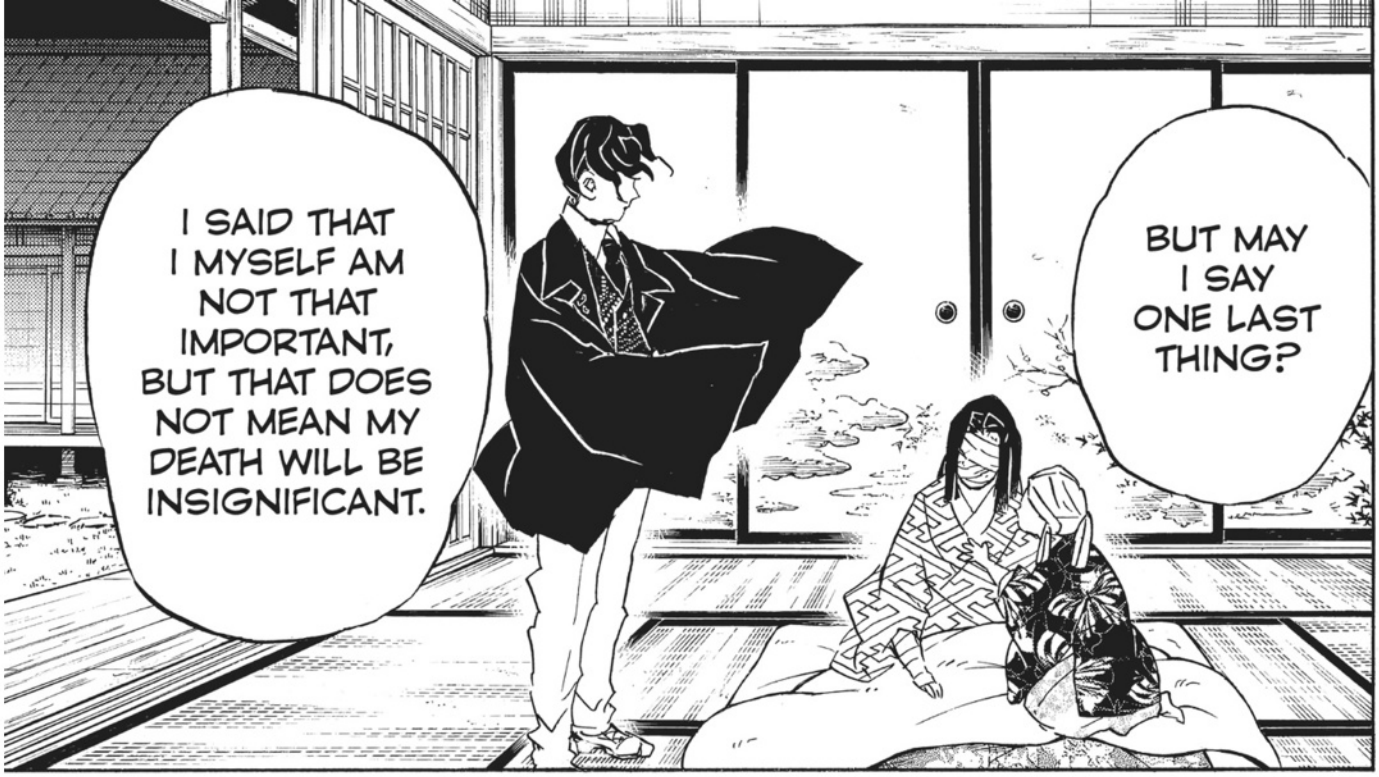
BECAUSE YOU...YOU DEMONS...
...HUMAN FEELINGS AND HUMAN BONDS.
BUT YOU CANNOT UNDER-STAND...

IF YOU DIE, ALL THE DEMONS WILL PERISH, RIGHT?

ENOUGH!


SO AM I RIGHT?
AH, THAT GOT YOUR ATTENTION.


I HAVE SAID WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED TO SAY TO YOU.
VERY WELL. THAT IS ALL.


I SAID THAT I MYSELF AM NOT THAT IMPORTANT, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN MY DEATH WILL BE INSIGNIFICANT.
BUT MAY I SAY ONE LAST THING?

SO IF I DIE, THEIR DETERMINA-TION WILL RISE HIGHER THAN EVER BEFORE.
FORTUNATELY, THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS—AND PARTICULARLY THE HASHIRA—ARE FOND OF ME.

THANK YOU...
...MUZAN.

KRIK
ARE YOU DONE TALKING?
KRIK
YES. I NEVER EXPECTED YOU TO LISTEN THIS LONG.

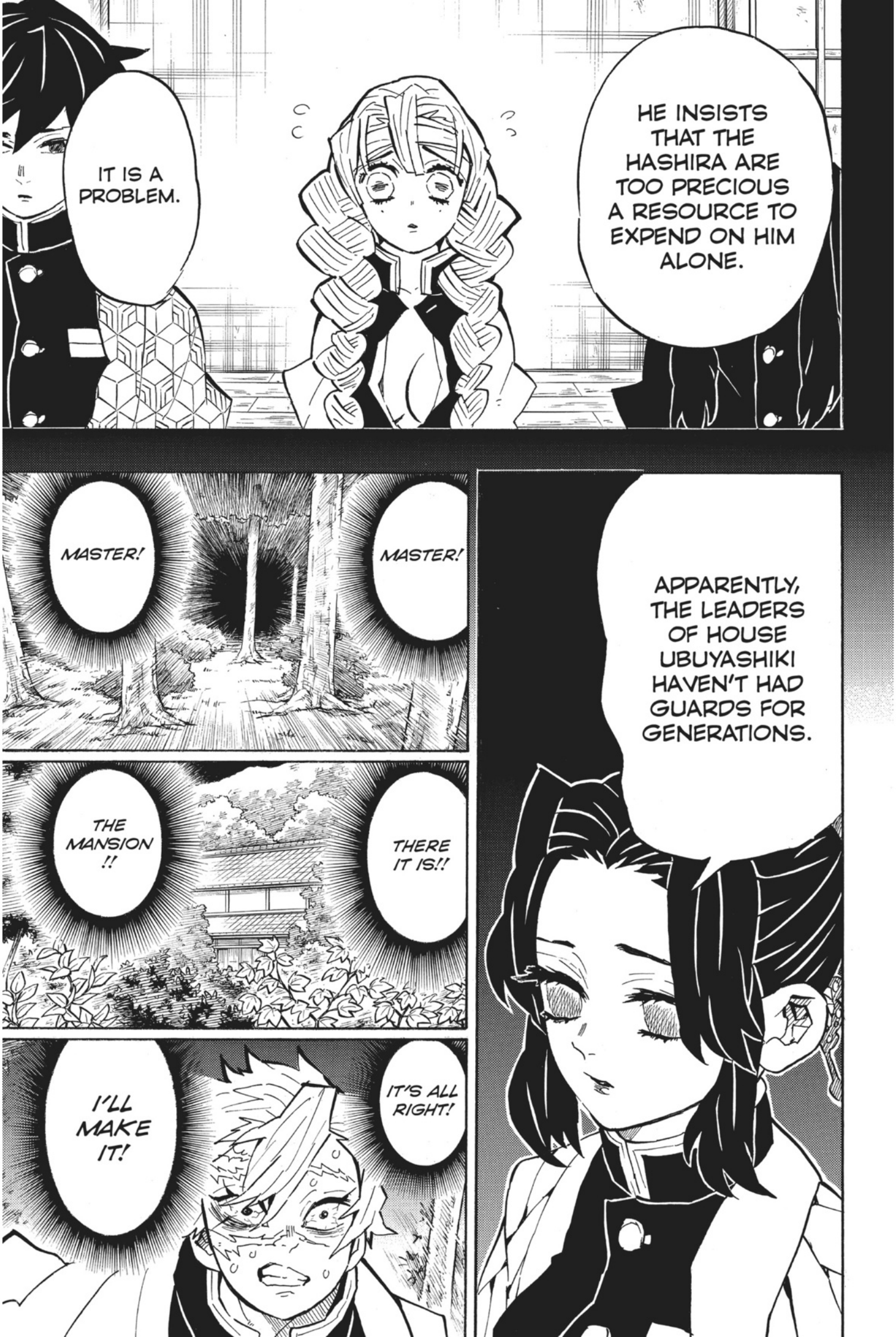
EMERGENCY SUMMONS!!
EMERGENCY SUMMONS!!
AN ATTACK ON UBUYASHIKI MANSION!!
AN ATTACK ON UBUYASHIKI MANSION!
MASTER !!

MASTER !!
HURRY !!
HURRY !!
...
GOTTA GET THERE IN TIME!!!

A scrapped illustration for a front page. Muzan and Kagaya's faces resemble each other as if they are twins.

CHAPTER 138: A SUDDEN TURN

AT LEAST TWO HASHIRA SHOULD BE BODYGUARDS FOR THE MASTER.
CAN YOU DO ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, HIMEJIMA?
...
NO, IT IS IMPOS-SIBLE.
I BECAME A HASHIRA AT 19, AND FOR EIGHT YEARS I HAVE SUGGESTED IT...
CLINK
RATTLE
...BUT HE WILL NOT LISTEN.

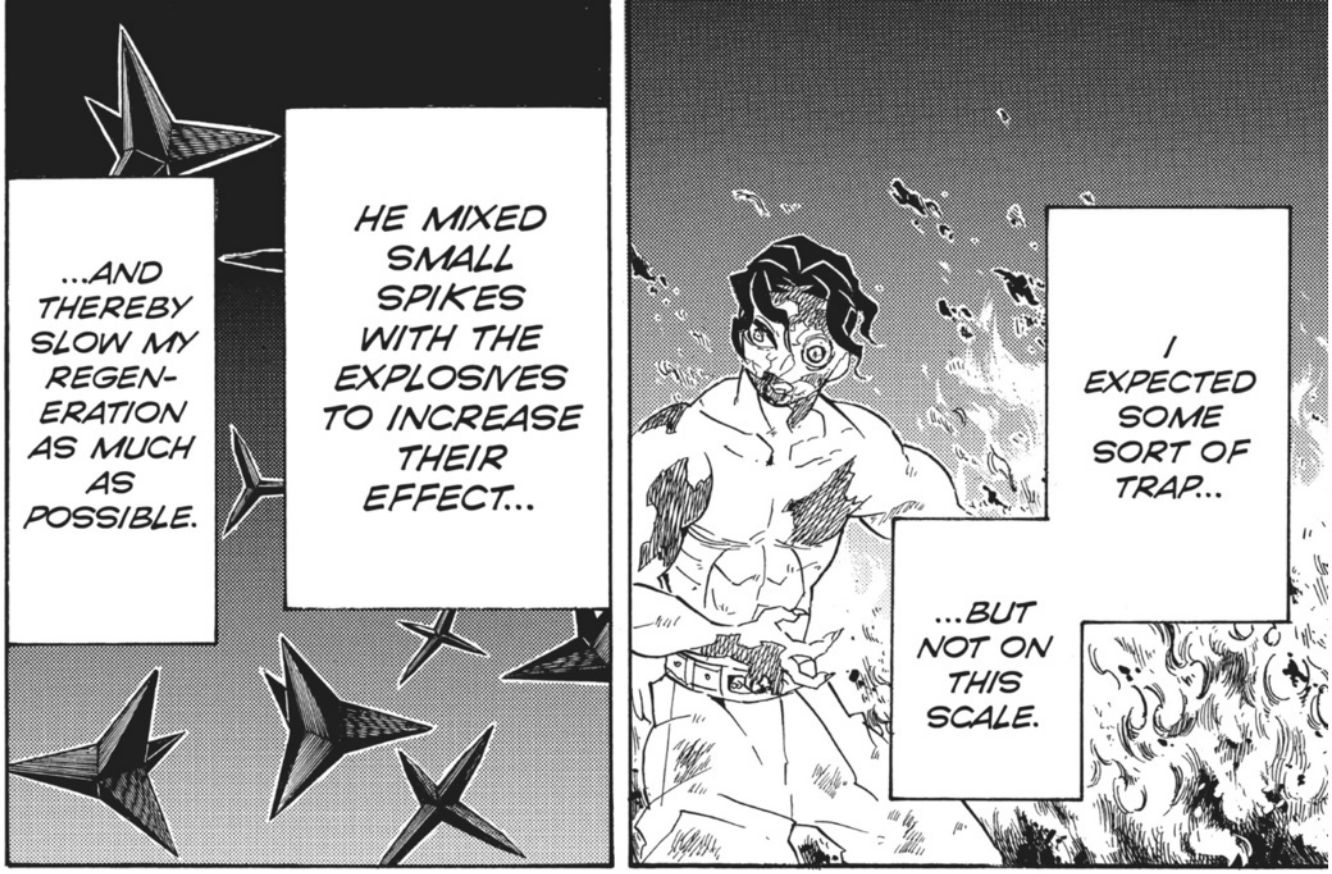

IT IS A PROBLEM.
HE INSISTS THAT THE HASHIRA ARE TOO PRECIOUS A RESOURCE TO EXPEND ON HIM ALONE.
APPARENTLY, THE LEADERS OF HOUSE UBUYASHIKI HAVEN'T HAD GUARDS FOR GENERATIONS.
MASTER!
MASTER!
THE MANSION !!
THERE IT IS!!
I'LL MAKE IT!
IT'S ALL RIGHT!

BOOM

EXPLOSIVES!
A LOT OF THEM!
THE STENCH OF BURNING BLOOD AND FLESH!!
KYOW

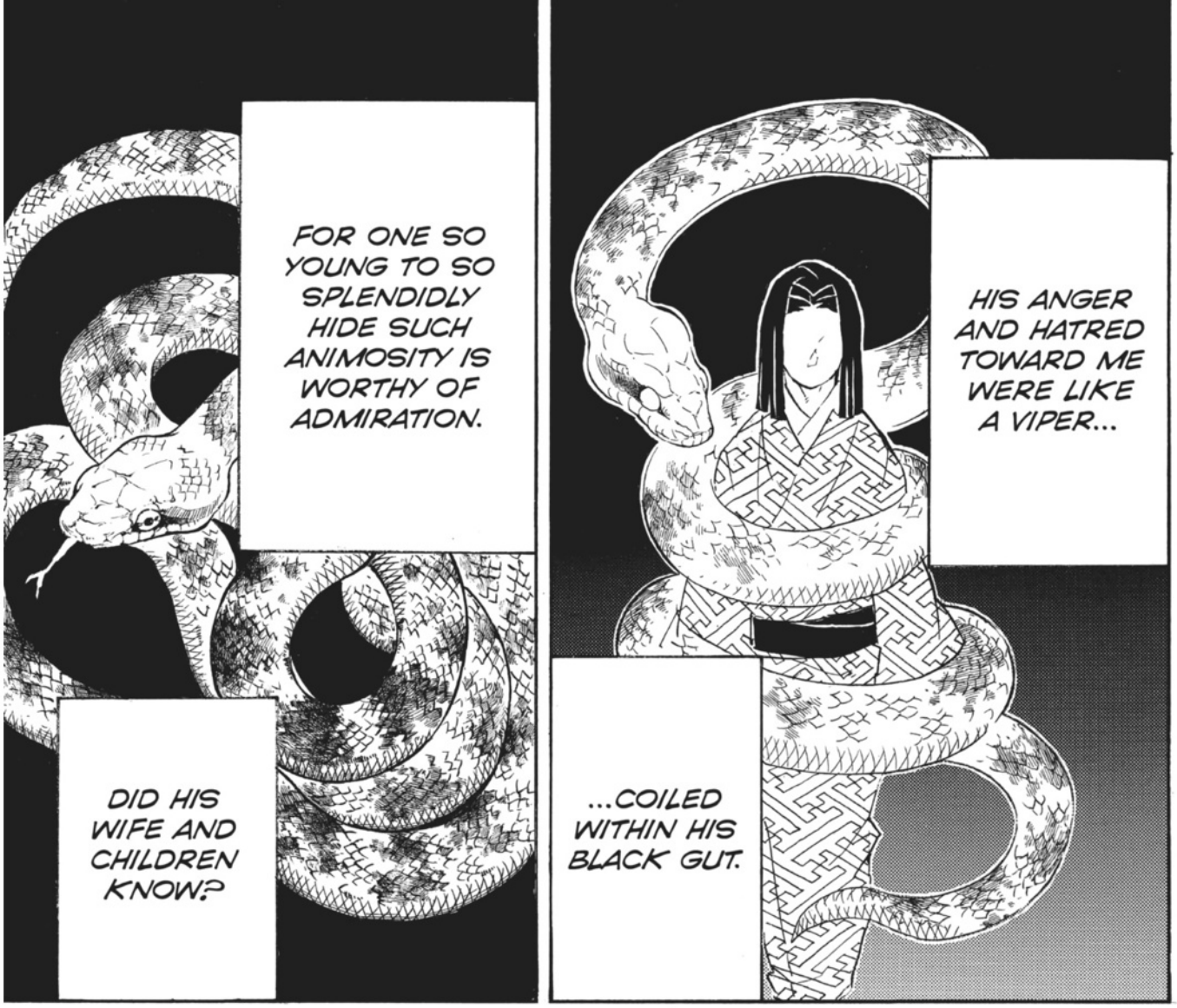
GUH...
UBU...
...YASHIKI-IIII!

...HE DE-STROYED HIM-SELF ...
WITH A BEATIFIC SMILE...
THE LOOK ON HIS FACE!!
I WAS WRONG ABOUT HIM.
...IN AN EXPLOSION!!
...ALONG WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN...
...BUT HE WAS NO ORDINARY MAN!
I TOOK HIS MEASURE AS MERELY HUMAN...


...AND THEREBY SLOW MY REGEN-ERATION AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
HE MIXED SMALL SPIKES WITH THE EXPLOSIVES TO INCREASE THEIR EFFECT...
I EXPECTED SOME SORT OF TRAP...
...BUT NOT ON THIS SCALE.

UBUYASHIKI INTENDS FOR SOMETHING FURTHER TO HAPPEN.
IN OTHER WORDS, THERE IS MORE.

THAT WICKED MAN USED HIMSELF AS A LURE.
BUT IT'S NOT THAT. IT'S SOMETHING ELSE.
I SENSE PEOPLE CONVERGING— PROBABLY HASHIRA.


FOR ONE SO YOUNG TO SO SPLENDIDLY HIDE SUCH ANIMOSITY IS WORTHY OF ADMIRATION.
DID HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN KNOW?
HIS ANGER AND HATRED TOWARD ME WERE LIKE A VIPER...
...COILED WITHIN HIS BLACK GUT.

IT IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE. I WILL SOON REGENERATE.
ENOUGH.
I MUSTN'T THINK ABOUT THAT NOW.

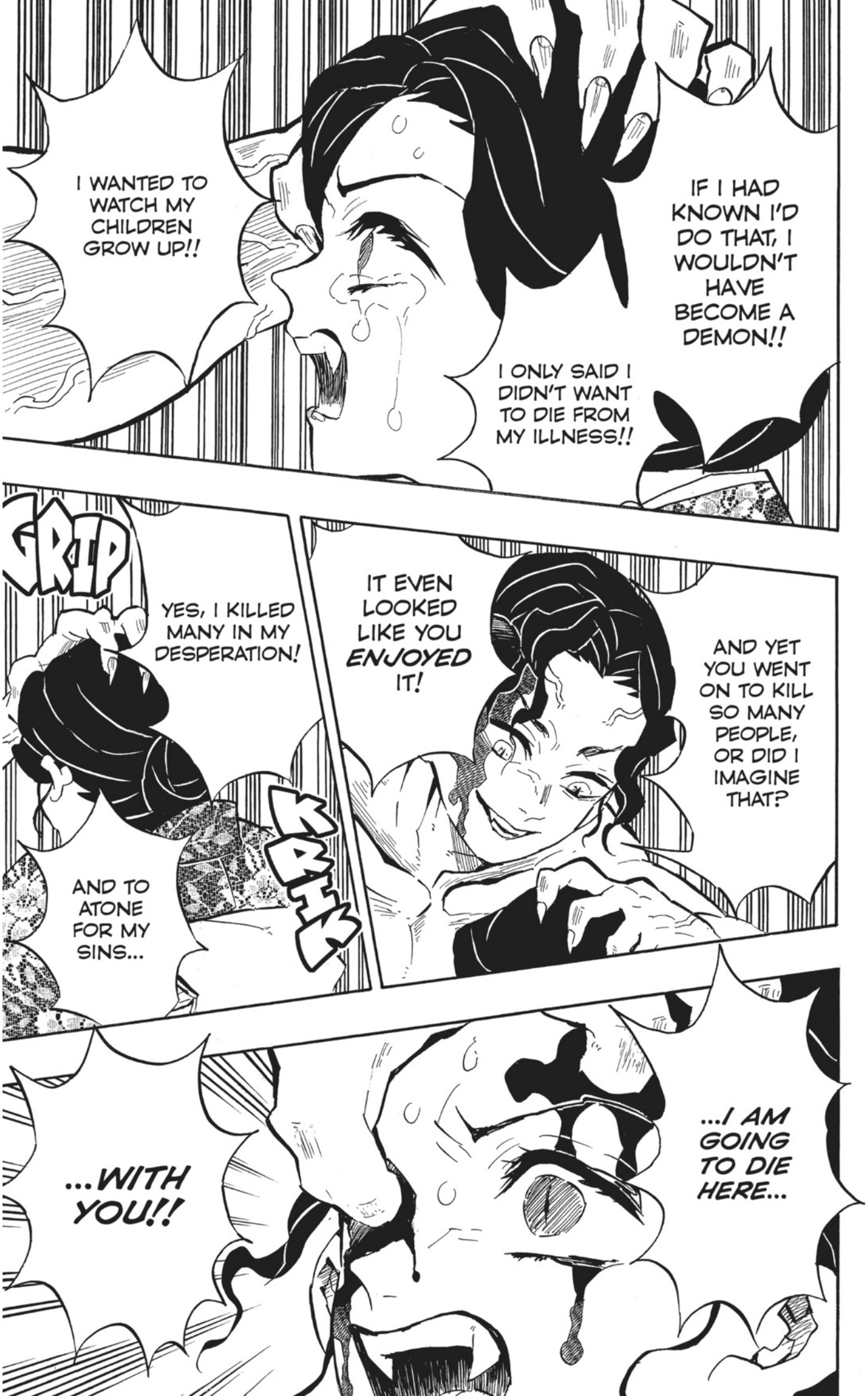
A BLOOD DEMON ART!!
SEEDS OF FLESH...
YES!!

I CAN'T MOVE!
WHOSE BLOOD DEMON ART IS THIS?!
THE THORNS HAVE BRANCHED OUT WITHIN MY FLESH, SO I CAN'T REMOVE THEM.
NO MATTER. THERE AREN'T THAT MANY.
I'LL JUST ABSORB THEM.
BWARS
SHUMP

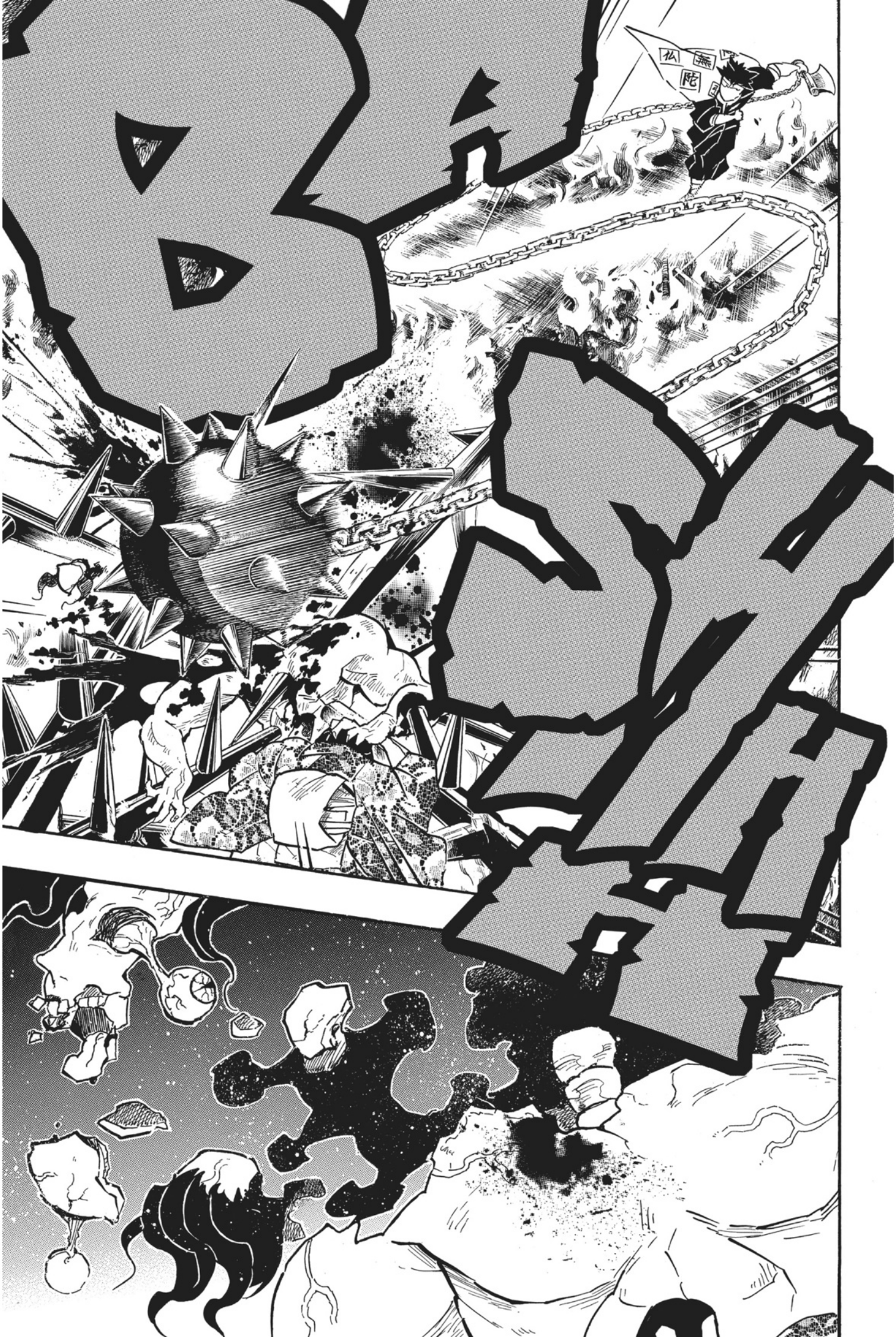
TAMAYO !!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
THIS BLOOD DEMON ART OF THORNS BELONGS TO THE PERSON YOU TURNED IN ASAKUSA!

WHY IS THIS WOMAN ...
WHAT IS HER GOAL? WHAT HAS SHE DONE?
...
SHE GOT IN CLOSE BY USING A BLOOD DEMON ART FOR CONCEALMENT!
BUT WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE WAS INSIDE IT?
YOU ABSORBED MY FIST, MUZAN.
SO? IS IT TAKING EFFECT?
IT IS A CONCOCTION FOR MAKING DEMONS HUMAN AGAIN!

SURELY YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
I COMPLETED IT.
THINGS HAVE GREATLY CHANGED!
BUT I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT ALONE!
...
GRRR
TAMAYO, YOU ARE A MOST PERSISTENT WOMAN!
BUT YOUR RESENT-MENT IS GROSSLY UNJUST!
WHO KILLED YOUR HUSBAND AND CHILDREN?
ME? NO! IT WAS YOU YOURSELF!
YOU ATE THEM!


I WANTED TO WATCH MY CHILDREN GROW UP!!
IF I HAD KNOWN I'D DO THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE BECOME A DEMON!!
I ONLY SAID I DIDN'T WANT TO DIE FROM MY ILLNESS!!
GRIP
YES, I KILLED MANY IN MY DESPERATION!
IT EVEN LOOKED LIKE YOU ENJOYED IT!
AND YET YOU WENT ON TO KILL SO MANY PEOPLE, OR DID I IMAGINE THAT?
AND TO ATONE FOR MY SINS...
...WITH YOU!!
...I AM GOING TO DIE HERE...

NOW, HIMEJIMA !!
NAMU ...
...AMIDA BUTSU!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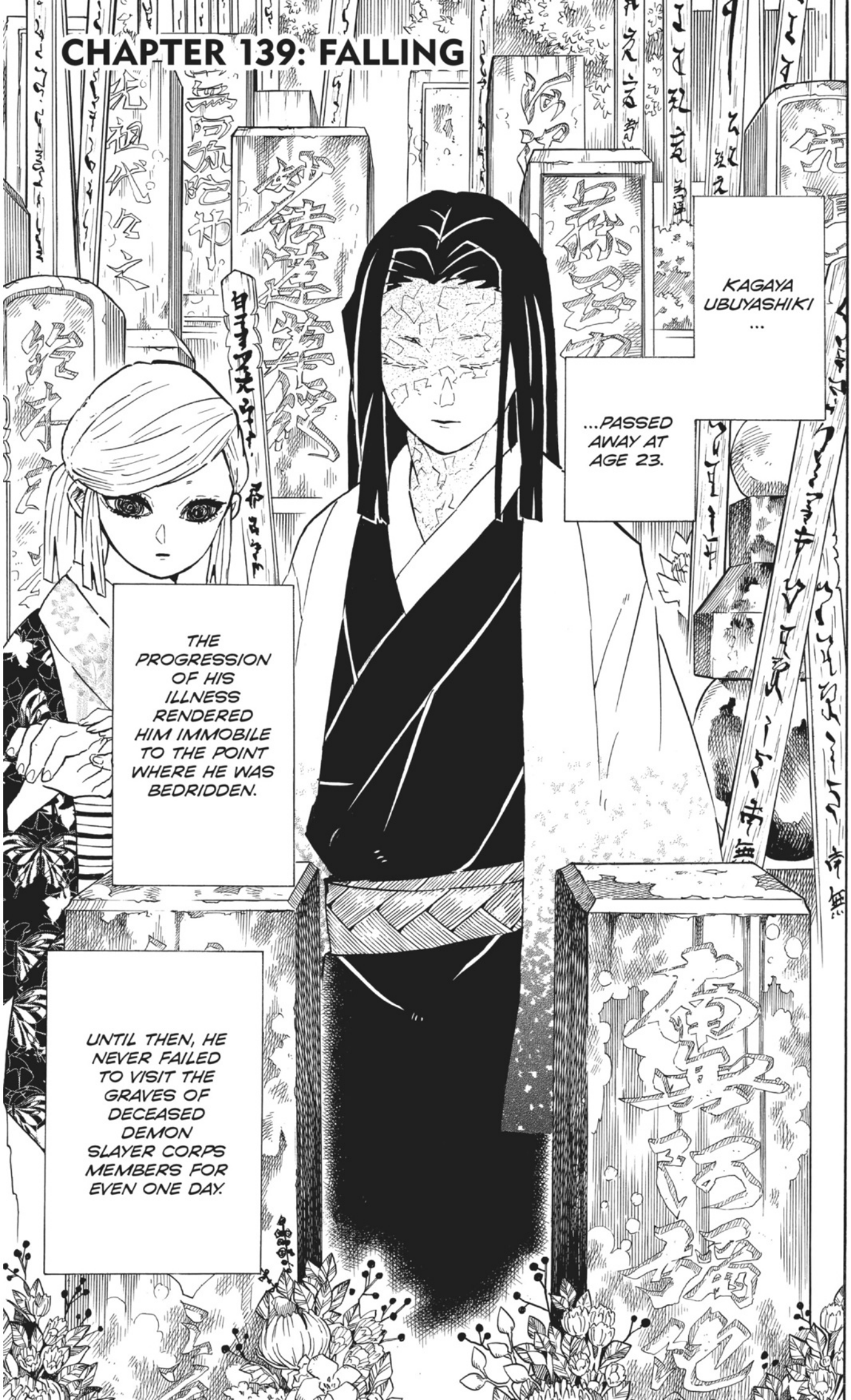
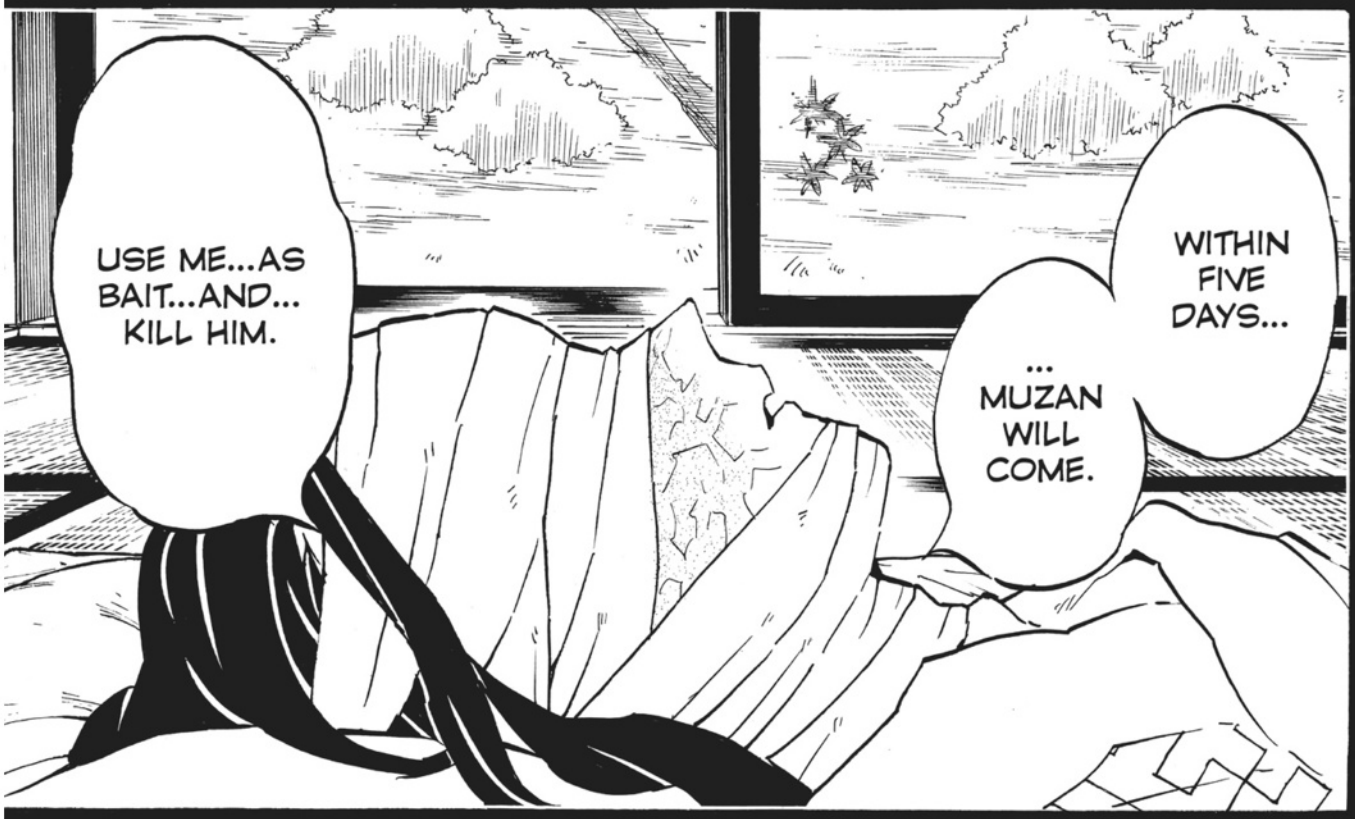
Yushiro isn't with Tamayo this time. He cannot refuse a request from the person he loves.

CHAPTER 139: FALLING


KAGAYA UBUYASHIKI ...
...PASSED AWAY AT AGE 23.
THE PROGRESSION OF HIS ILLNESS RENDERED HIM IMMOBILE TO THE POINT WHERE HE WAS BEDRIDDEN.
UNTIL THEN, HE NEVER FAILED TO VISIT THE GRAVES OF DECEASED DEMON SLAYER CORPS MEMBERS FOR EVEN ONE DAY.

IT WAS HARD TO BELIEVE FROM HIS BEARING AND BEHAVIOR THAT HE WAS FOUR YEARS YOUNGER THAN ME.
THE FIRST TIME WE MET...
...MASTER UBUYASHIKI WAS 14 AND I WAS 18.
YOU ARE NOT A MURDERER.
I KNOW THAT YOU FOUGHT TO PROTECT PEOPLE.
HIS SOLEMNITY NEVER CHANGED FROM THE FIRST TIME WE MET UNTIL HIS DEATH.
...AT THAT MOMENT.
HE ALWAYS...
...KNEW WHAT PEOPLE WANTED TO HEAR...


USE ME...AS BAIT...AND... KILL HIM.
WITHIN FIVE DAYS...
... MUZAN WILL COME.

HEH HEH...
INSTINCT... THAT'S ALL.
NOT... REASON.

...
WHY DO YOU THINK HE'LL COME?

THE ABILITY TO SEE THE FUTURE. IN THIS WAY, THEY BECAME WEALTHY AND AVOIDED CRISIS MANY TIMES.
IT WAS ALSO CALLED PRECOG-NITION.
IN ADDITION TO THAT SPECIAL VOICE, THE UBUYASHIKI CLAN HAD INCREDIBLE INSTINCT.

I CAN ONLY ASK... YOU... GYOMEI.
THE OTHER... CHILDREN... WILL NOT AGREE... TO USE... ME...
...AS BAIT.
VERY WELL.
IF THAT IS YOUR WISH, MASTER.
PLEASE... FROM NOW ON... DO NOT LET... MY DEAR...
... CHILDREN... DIE.
THANK YOU.

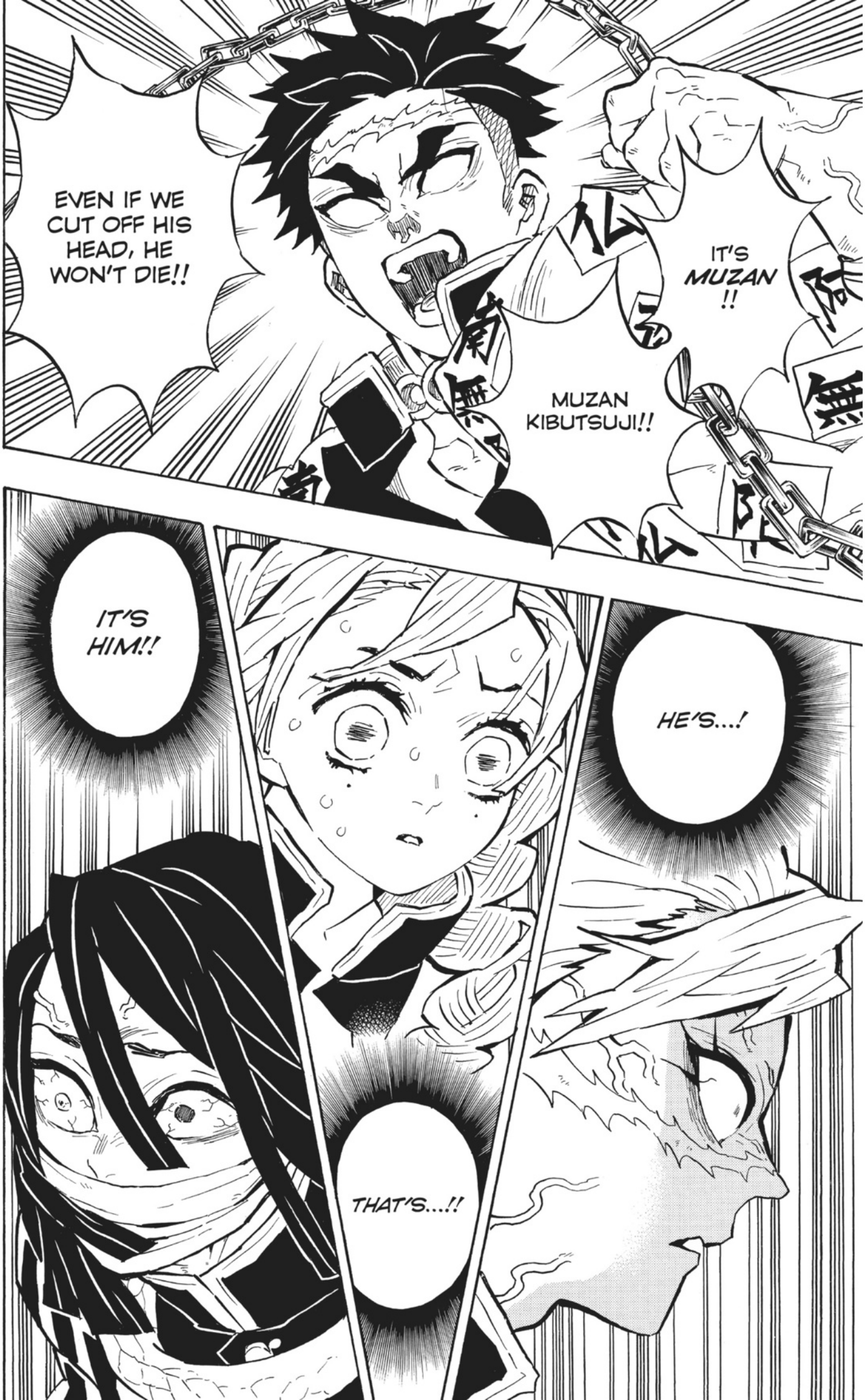
I KNEW IT!!
...
JUST AS MASTER UBUYASHIKI FORESAW...
MUZAN... HE...

EVEN IF YOU SEVER HIS NECK...
...HE DOESN'T DIE!!!
I SUSPECT THAT THE ONLY THING THAT CAN DESTROY MUZAN...IS SUNLIGHT.
IF HE DOESN'T DIE EVEN WHEN YOU CUT OFF HIS HEAD, THIS FIGHT IS GOING TO GO ON UNTIL THE SUN RISES.
AND THE SPEED OF HIS PHYSICAL REGENERATION ...
JUDGING BY THE SOUND...
...IT FAR SURPASSES ANY DEMON I HAVE FACED SO FAR.

EVEN AFTER MASTER AND HIS ALLIES...
...BLASTED AND WEAKENED HIM, MUZAN STILL HAS THIS MUCH STRENGTH.
!!
UNTIL DAWN BREAKS ...
...WE MUST RESTRAIN THIS MONSTER IN A PLACE WHERE SUNLIGHT WILL SHINE.

BLACK BLOOD
BRAMBLES!
STONE SKIN!
THIRD FORM:
STONE BREATHING

WHAT DID YOU DO TO MASTER UBUYASHIKI?!!
WAS IT YOU?!
MASTER!!
MASTER!
MASTER UBUYASHIKI COMMANDS...
...SPLENDIDLY.
THE HASHIRA GATHER!


EVEN IF WE CUT OFF HIS HEAD, HE WON'T DIE!!
IT'S MUZAN !!
MUZAN KIBUTSUJI!!
IT'S HIM!!
HE'S...!
THAT'S...!!

THAT'S
...

...
KIBUTSUJI
?!

MUZAN
!!
FOURTH
FORM!
MIST
BREATH-
ING

LOVE BREATH-ING
SERPENT BREATH-ING
INSECT BREATH-ING
FIFTH FORM!
FIRST FORM!
BUTTER-FLY DANCE!
THIRD FORM!
WATER BREATHING
SEVENTH FORM!
WIND BREATHING

HINOKAMI KAGURA
SUN-FLOWER THRUST!

阿
南
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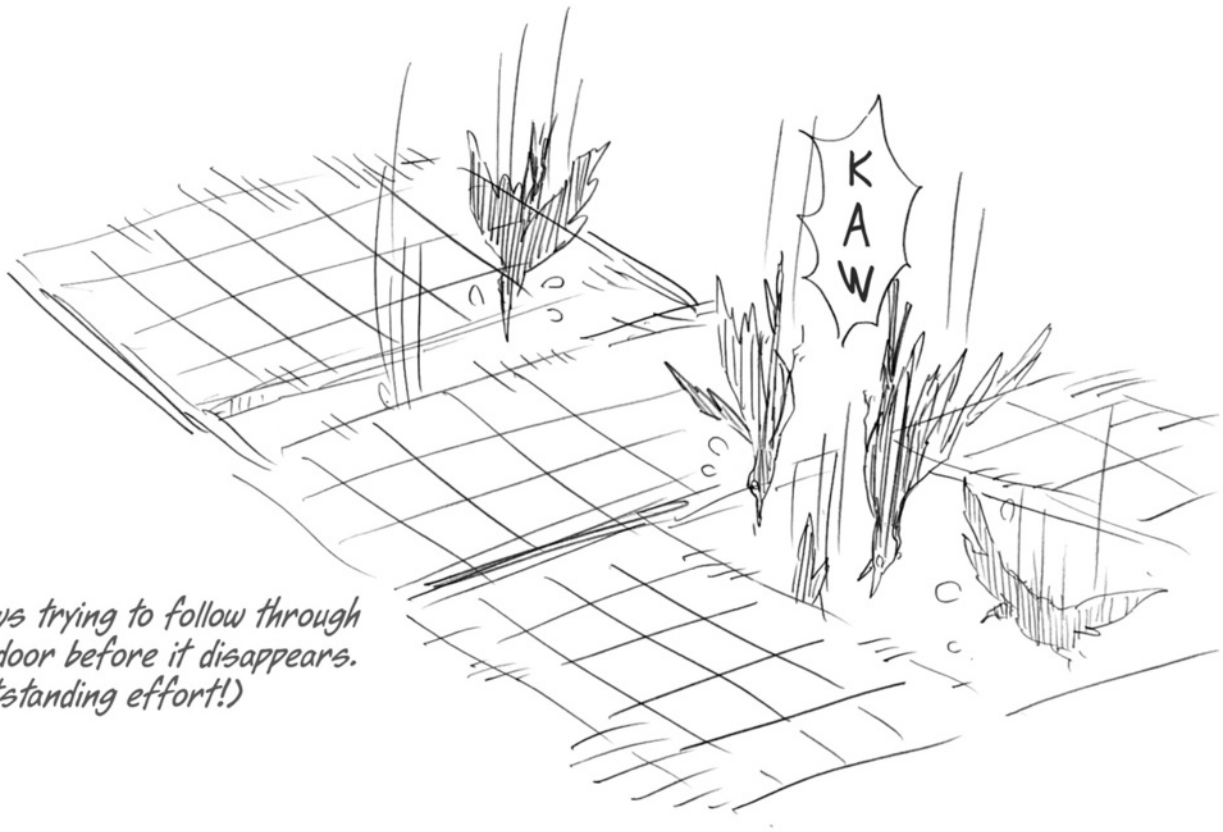
YOU'RE ALL GOING TO HELL!!
DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE ME CORNERED?
...OF YOU FILTHY DEMON SLAYERS!
TONIGHT, I AM GOING TO KILL EVERY LAST ONE...

I'LL NEVER LET YOU ESCAPE! I'M TAKING YOU DOWN NO MATTER WHAT!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO HELL, MUZAN!
TANJIRO ...
THEN DO IT...
...KAMADO !!
...IF YOU CAN!



Crows trying to follow through the door before it disappears. (Outstanding effort!)

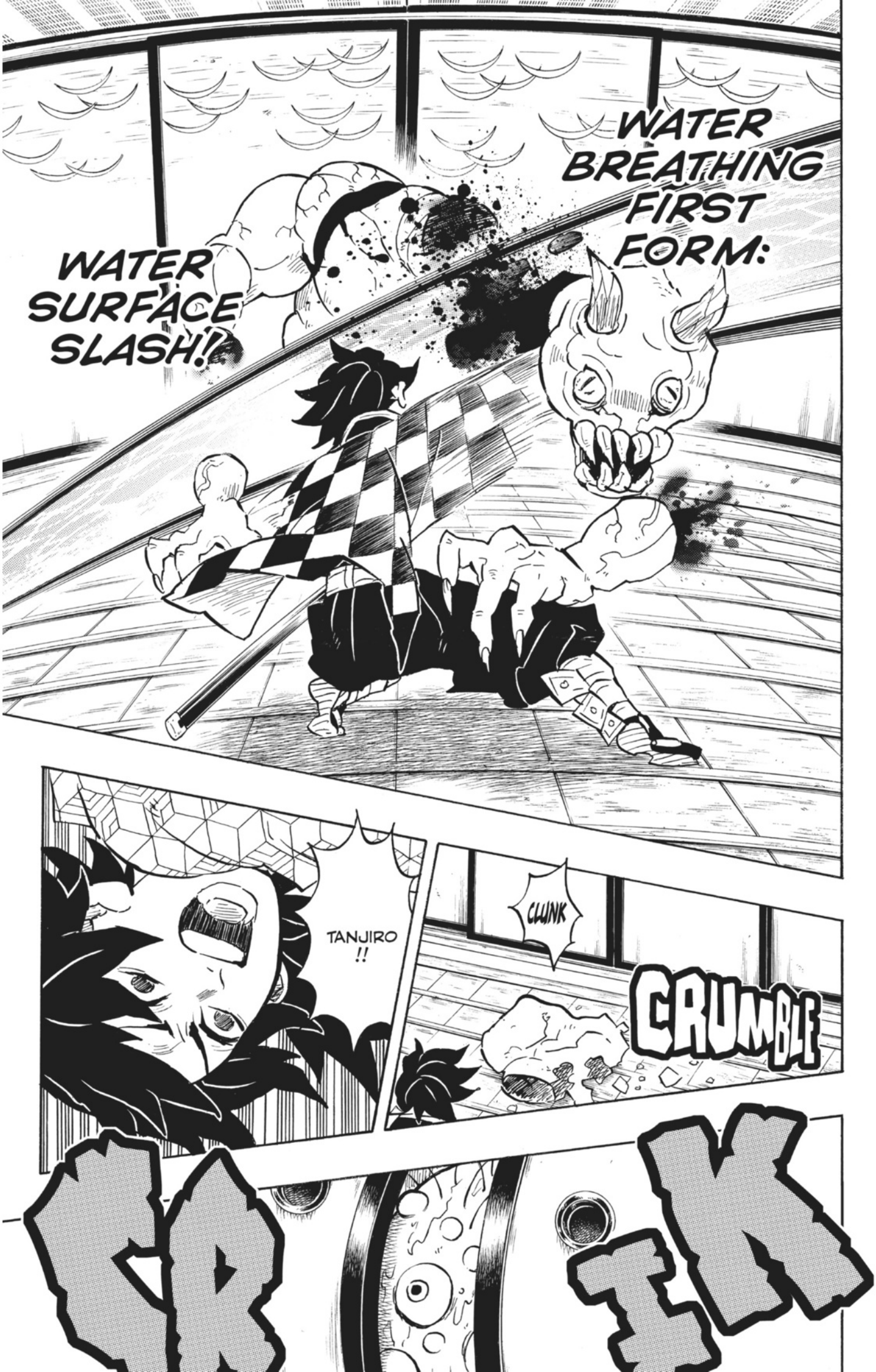
WHAT IS THIS PLACE? UP AND DOWN AND LEFT AND RIGHT ARE ALL MIXED UP!
WAS IT BUILT WITH MUZAN'S BLOOD DEMON ART?
I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT...
...TAMAYO WAS HOLDING OFF MUZAN.
HOW LONG CAN SHE HANG ON?
I'VE GOT TO GET TO MUZAN AND TAKE HIM OUT!
RIGHT NOW!

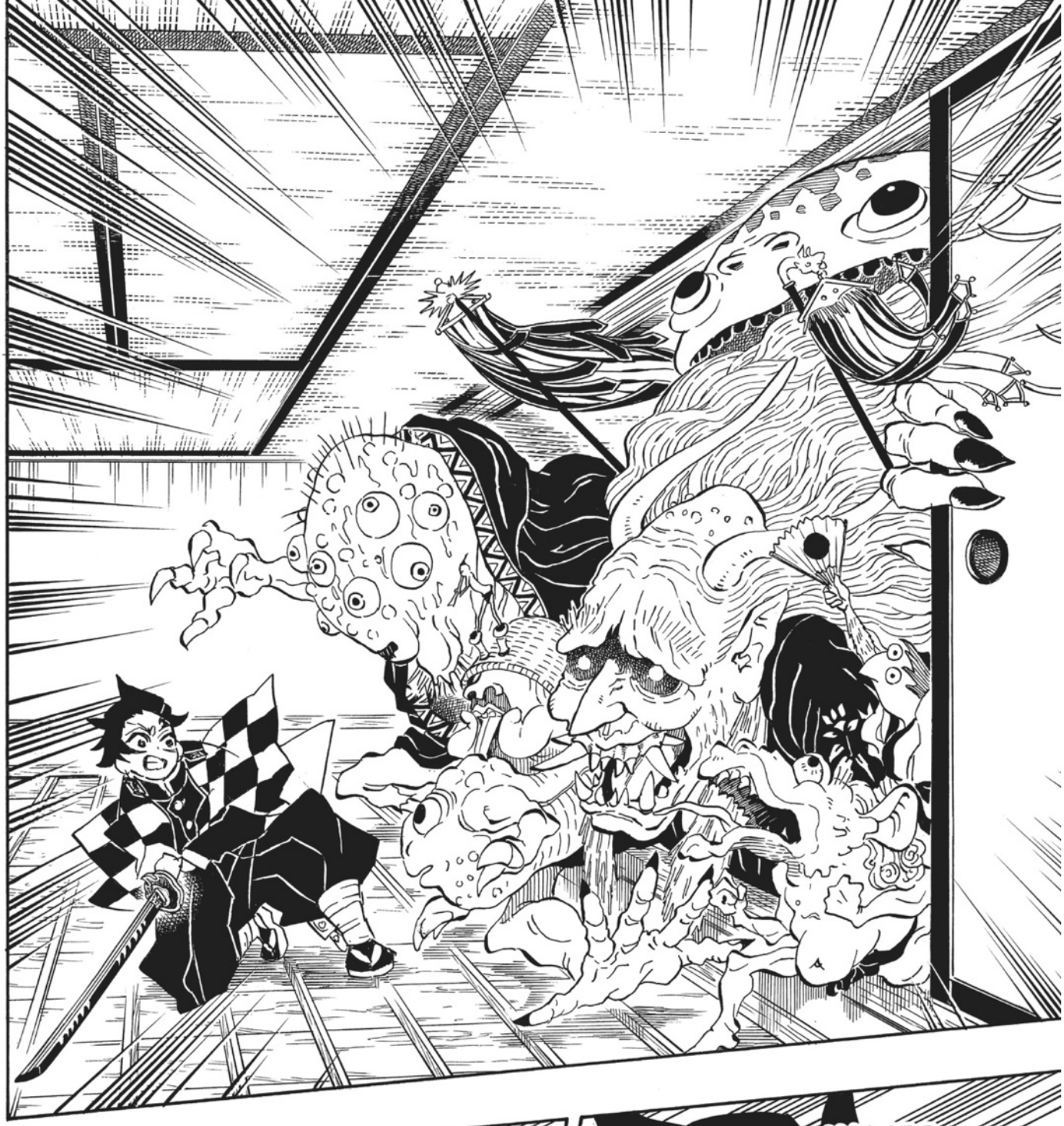
CHAPTER 140:
THE FINAL BATTLE BEGINS

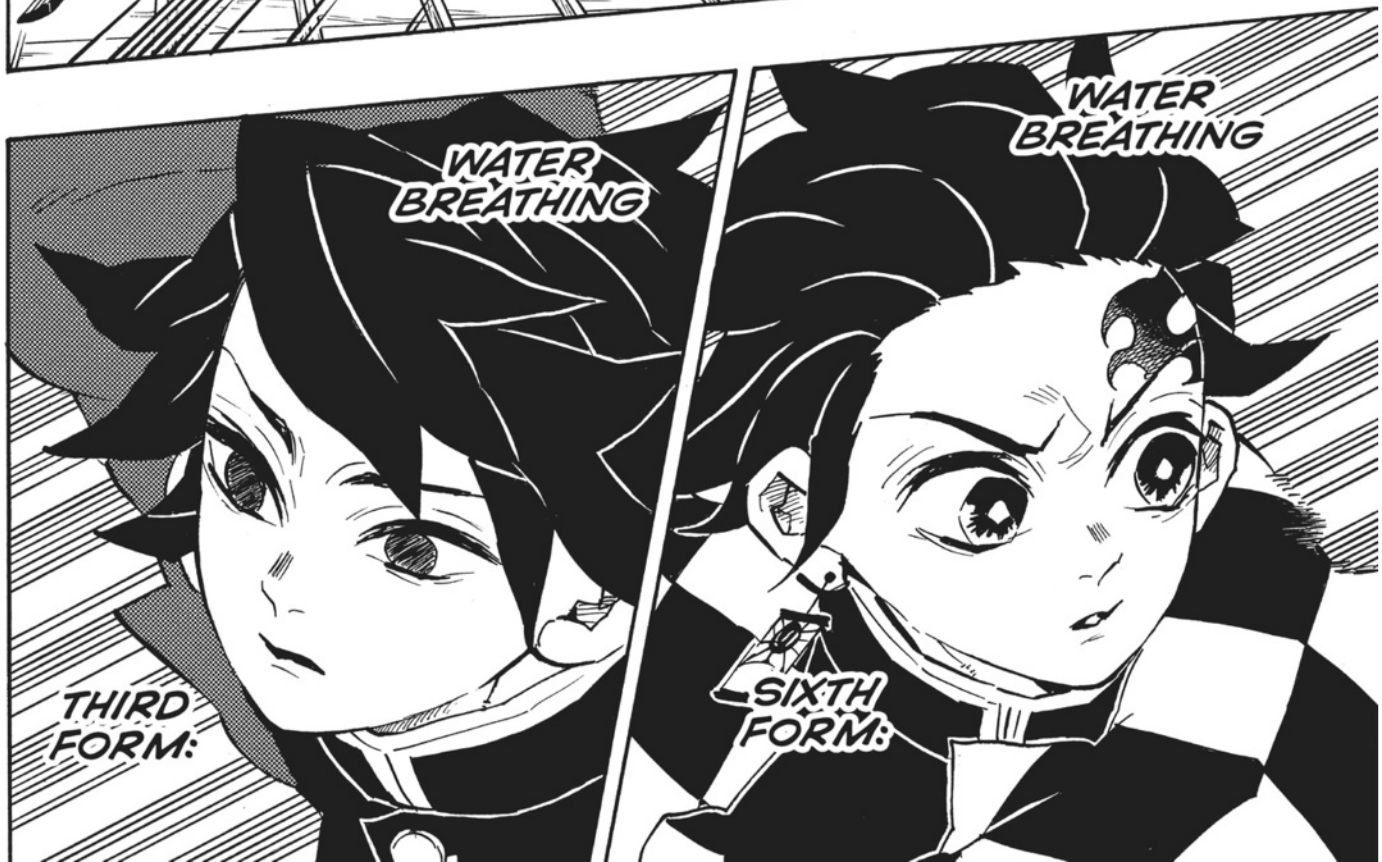
All of the corps members whom Nakime caught this time fell into Infinity Castle. The moment when the floor suddenly dropped was fun, so Inosuke laughed.

IF I HIT THE BOTTOM, I'LL DIE!!
USE A TECHNIQUE TO CHANGE MY TRAJECTORY!
THROB
GRAB ONTO THE BUILDING SOME-WHERE!!
GRAB
THE FALL'S PREVENTING ME FROM PLANTING MYSELF!
!!
I'M OUT OF POSITION!!

GI...
WHAM
WHAM
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH!
THANK YOU!
YOU...
...SAVED ME!

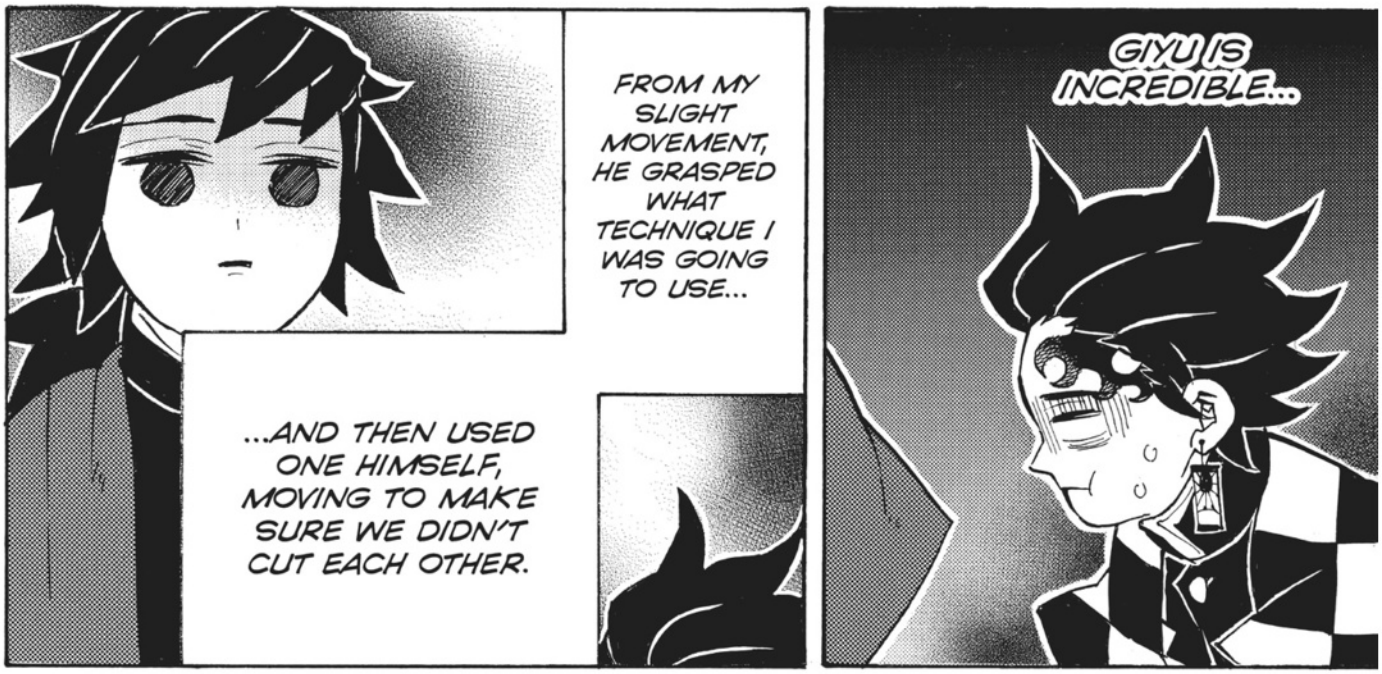

WATER BREATHING FIRST FORM:
WATER SURFACE SLASH!!
TANJIRO !!
CLUNK
CRUMBLE
OK




WATER BREATHING
THIRD FORM:
WATER BREATHING
SIXTH FORM:

WHIRL-
POOL!
FLOWING
DANCE!

...
RUMBLE
RUMBLE


FROM MY SLIGHT MOVEMENT, HE GRASPED WHAT TECHNIQUE I WAS GOING TO USE...
...AND THEN USED ONE HIMSELF, MOVING TO MAKE SURE WE DIDN'T CUT EACH OTHER.
GIYU IS INCREDIBLE...

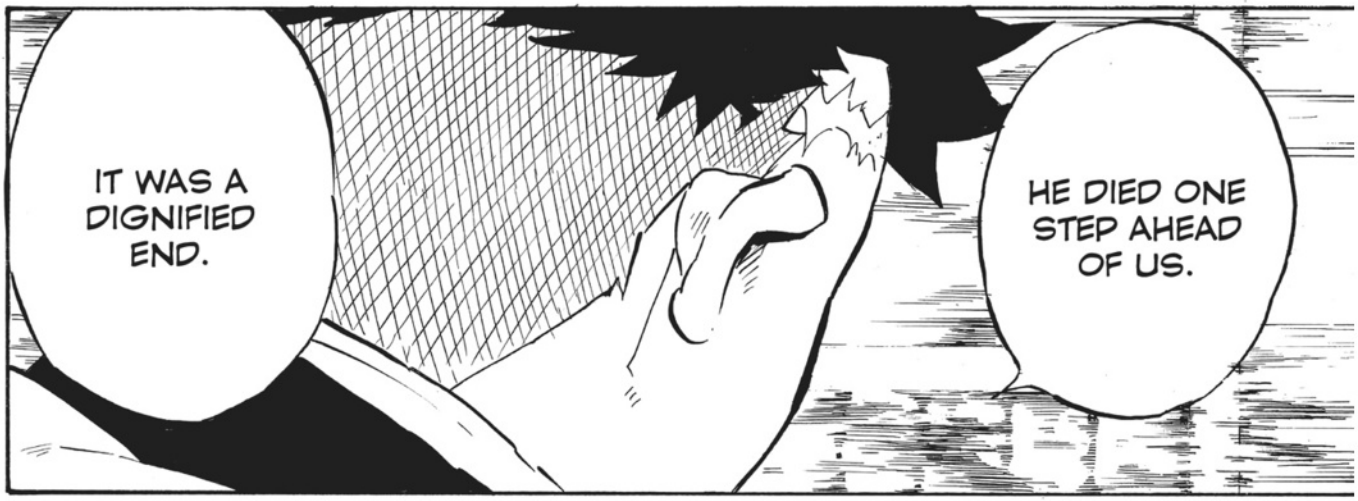
ALL RIGHT!
LET'S GO.
TUMP
TUMP
IT'S FREAKY!
WHAT'S THAT LOOK ON HIS FACE?

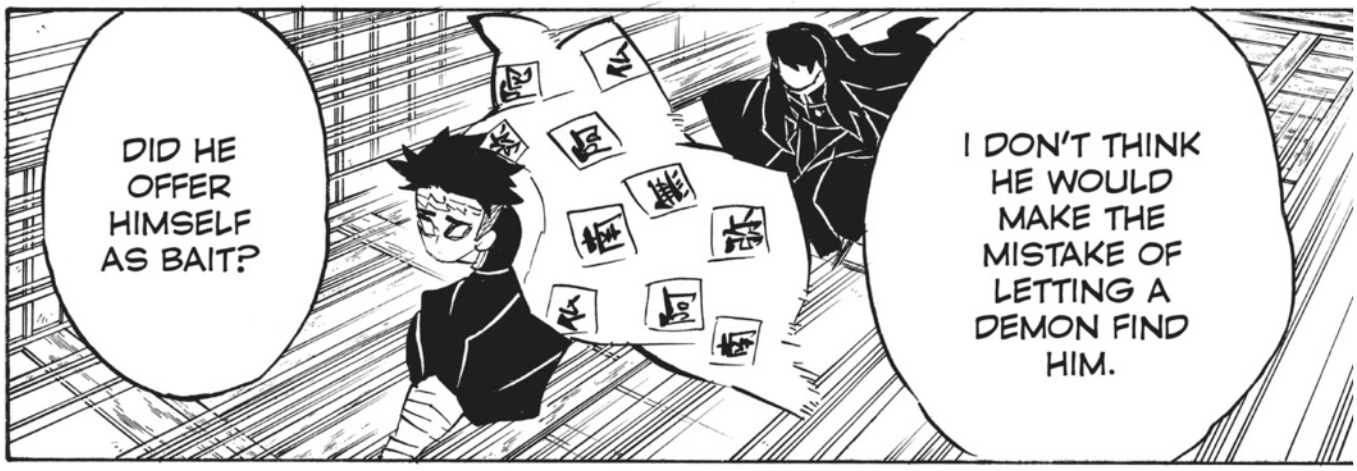
FIFTH FORM:
SERPENT BREATHING
SLITHERING SERPENT!

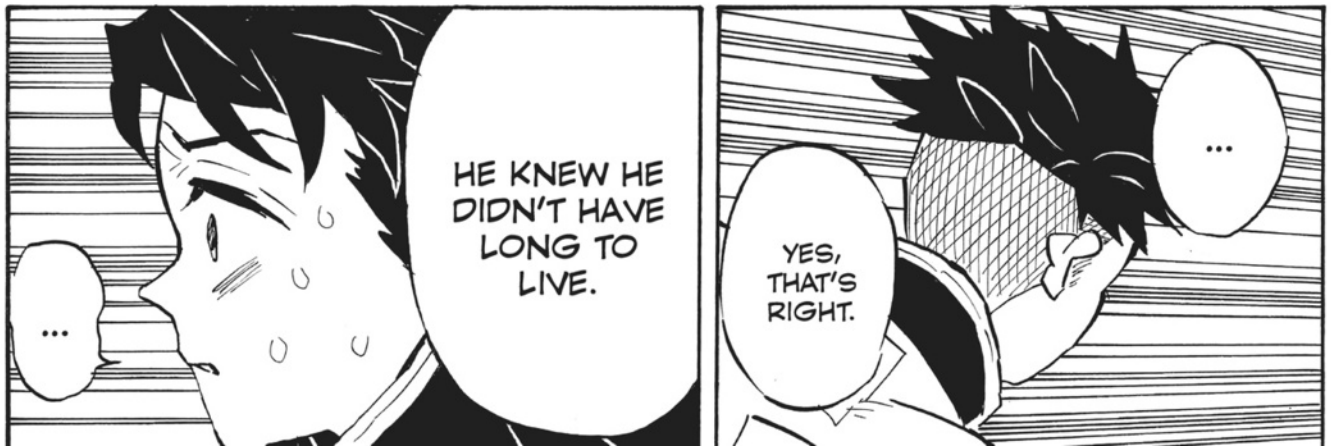
STAY AWAY FROM KANROJI...
...YOU SCUM!
KYAAAH!!
IGURO IS GREAT!!

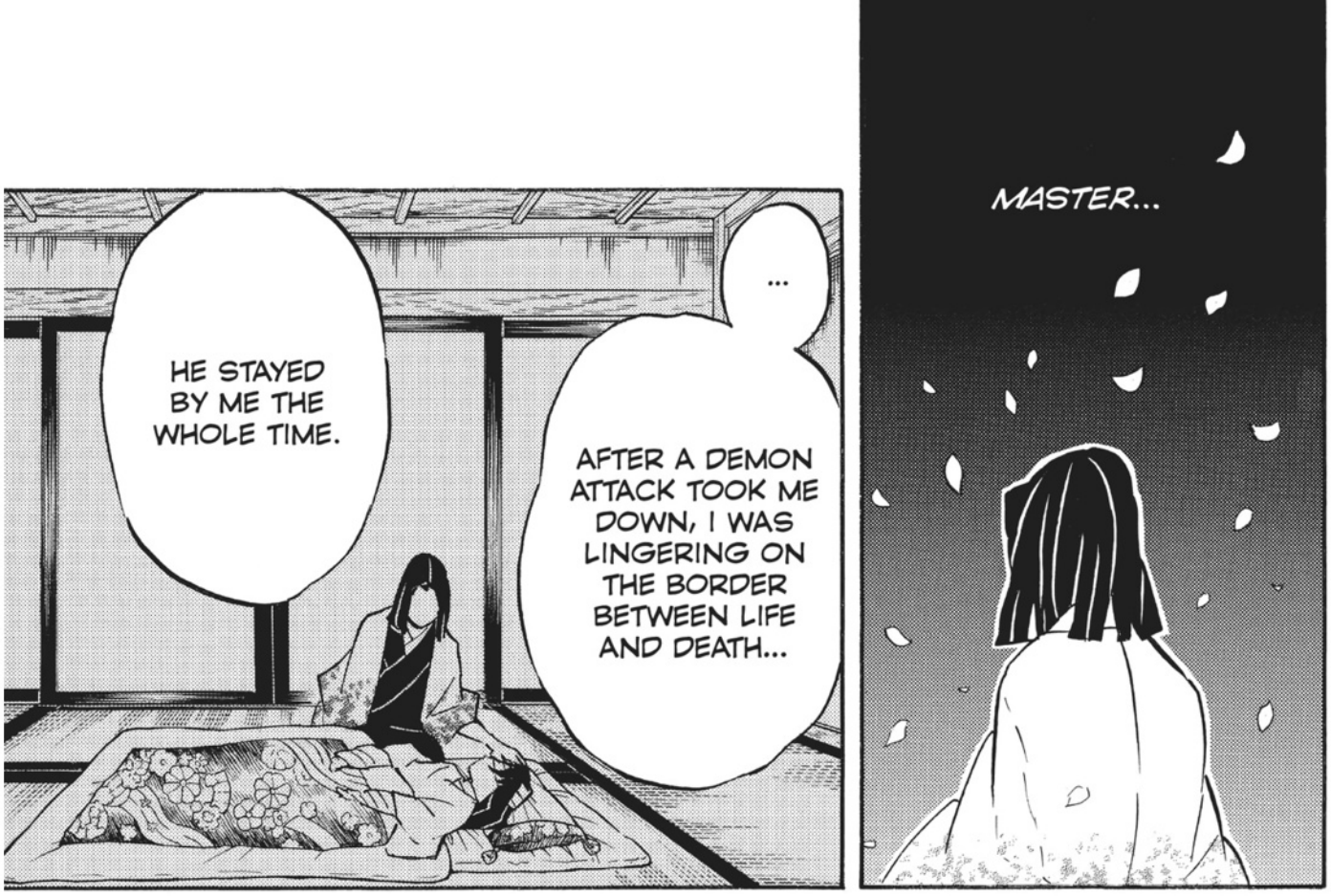
ARE YOU HURT?
NO!
LET'S GO.
OKAY!
KNOCK
IT'S AN INCREDIBLE NUMBER OF DEMONS, ISN'T IT?
IT APPEARS THEY'VE BEEN IMBUED WITH STRENGTH ROUGHLY EQUAL TO A LOWER-RANK KIZUKI.
THEY'RE TRYING TO WEAR US DOWN.

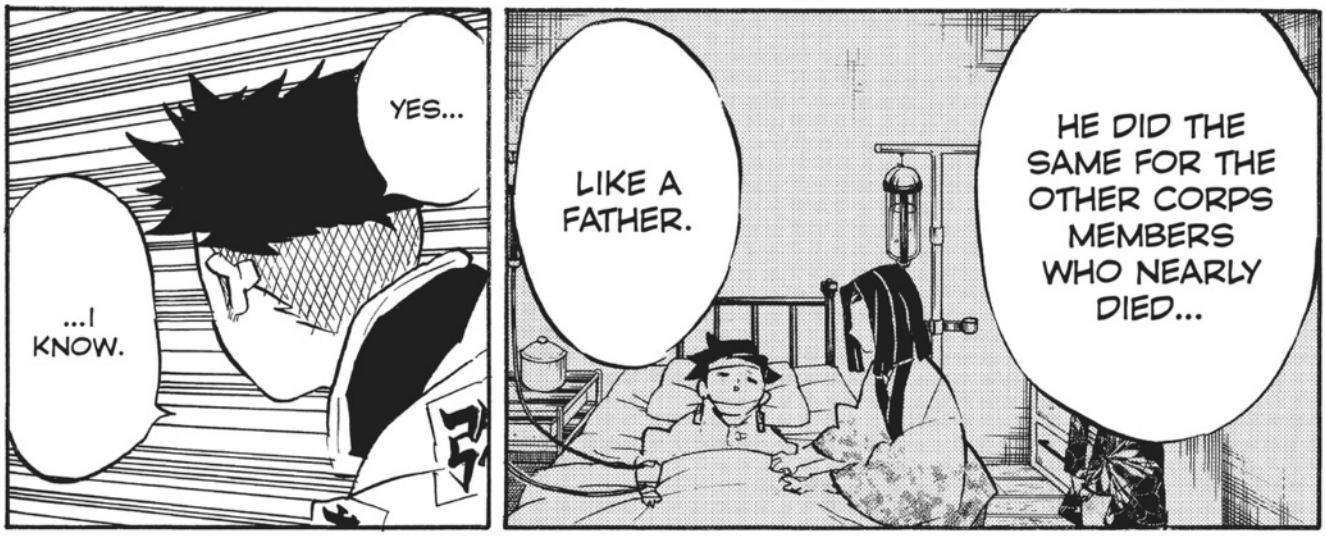
WHAT ABOUT MASTER UBUYASHIKI ??


IT WAS A DIGNIFIED END.
HE DIED ONE STEP AHEAD OF US.


DID HE OFFER HIMSELF AS BAIT?
I DON'T THINK HE WOULD MAKE THE MISTAKE OF LETTING A DEMON FIND HIM.


...
HE KNEW HE DIDN'T HAVE LONG TO LIVE.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
...


...
AFTER A DEMON ATTACK TOOK ME DOWN, I WAS LINGERING ON THE BORDER BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH...
HE STAYED BY ME THE WHOLE TIME.
MASTER...


HE DID THE SAME FOR THE OTHER CORPS MEMBERS WHO NEARLY DIED...
LIKE A FATHER.
YES...
...I KNOW.

MUZAN EVEN STOLE OUR FATHER, NOT JUST MY BIG BROTHER.
I'LL MAKE SURE HE SUFFERS BEFORE I SEND HIM TO HELL!
MUZAN !!

DON'T WORRY.
WE ALL FEEL THE SAME WAY.

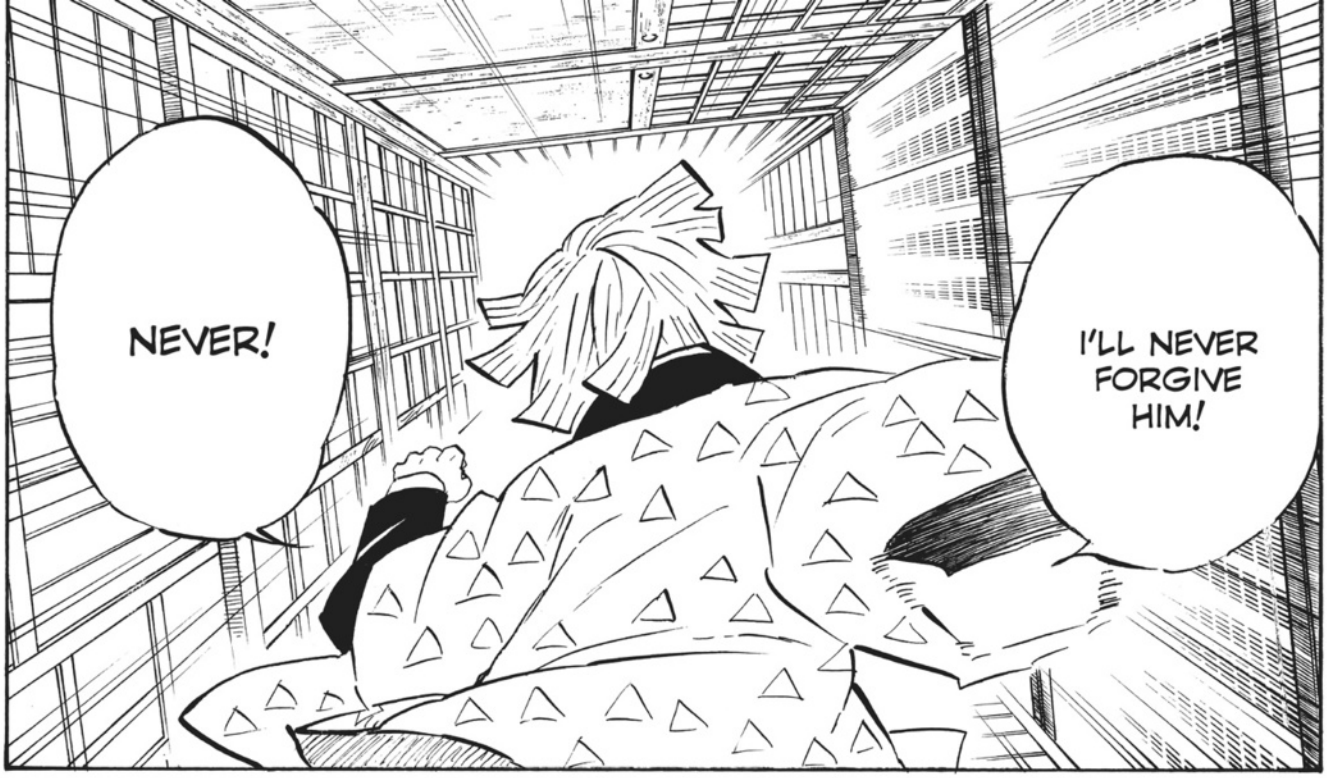
MASTER ...
I COULDN'T PROTECT HIM.

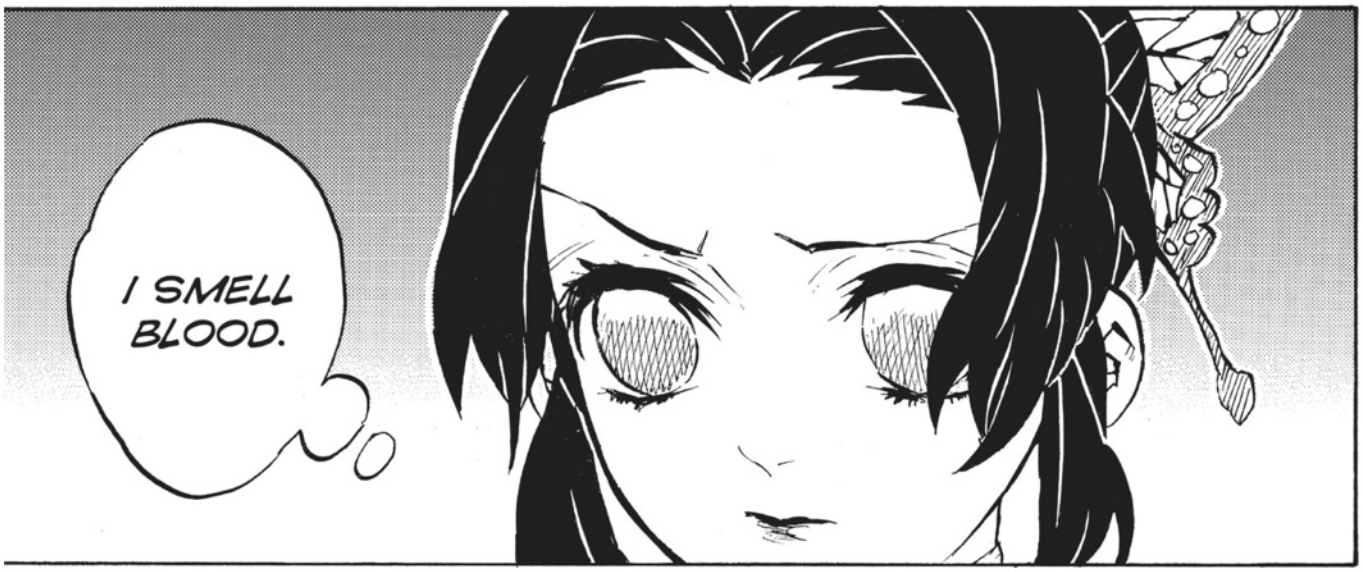
ドゴォ

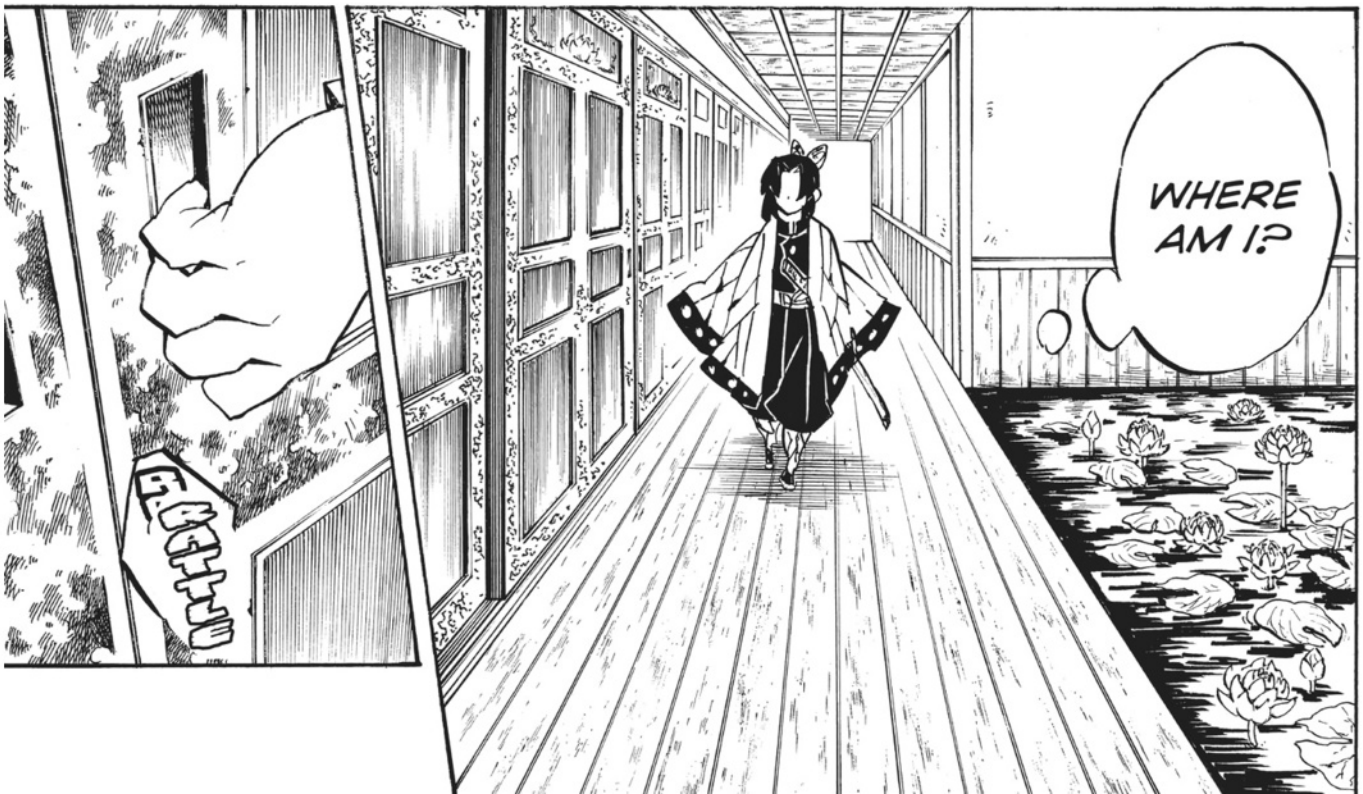
WORMD
THEY'RE COMING ONE AFTER ANOTHER!
YOU FILTH!
BRING IT ON!
殺
I'LL KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!

HEAD-LONG ...
...RUSH!!
PERFECT FOR TESTING MY TRAINING!!
...AND THERE'RE DEMONS EVERYWHERE!
I'M SUDDENLY IN THIS CRAZY PLACE...

SANEMI... BE SAFE FOR ME, BIG BROTHER!
WHERE IS EVERYONE ?
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
A DEMON BASE?
I HEARD SOMETHING.
MUZAN MAY BE CLOSE.

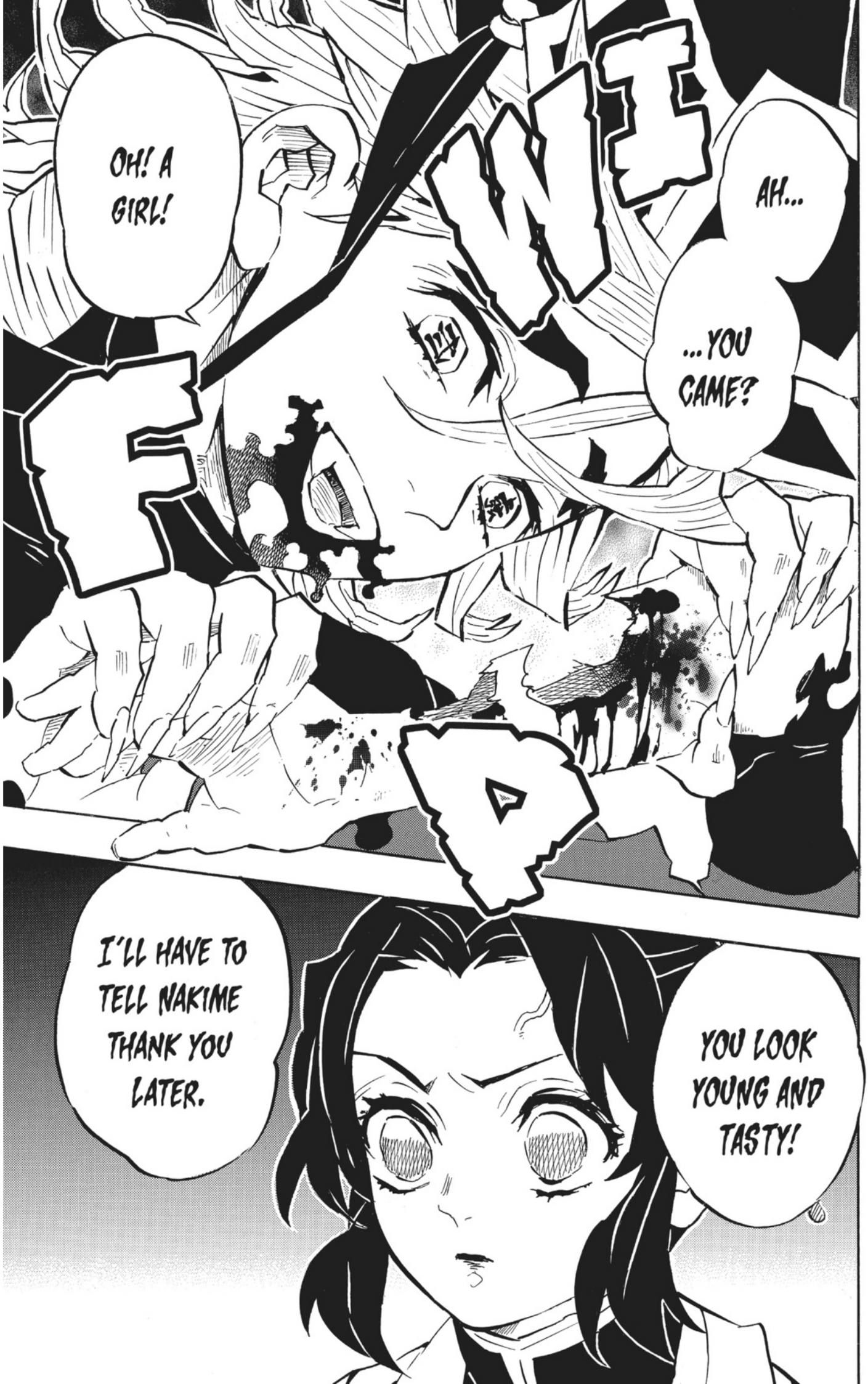

NEVER!
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM!


I SMELL BLOOD.


G-GAHH
WHERE AM I?

PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF

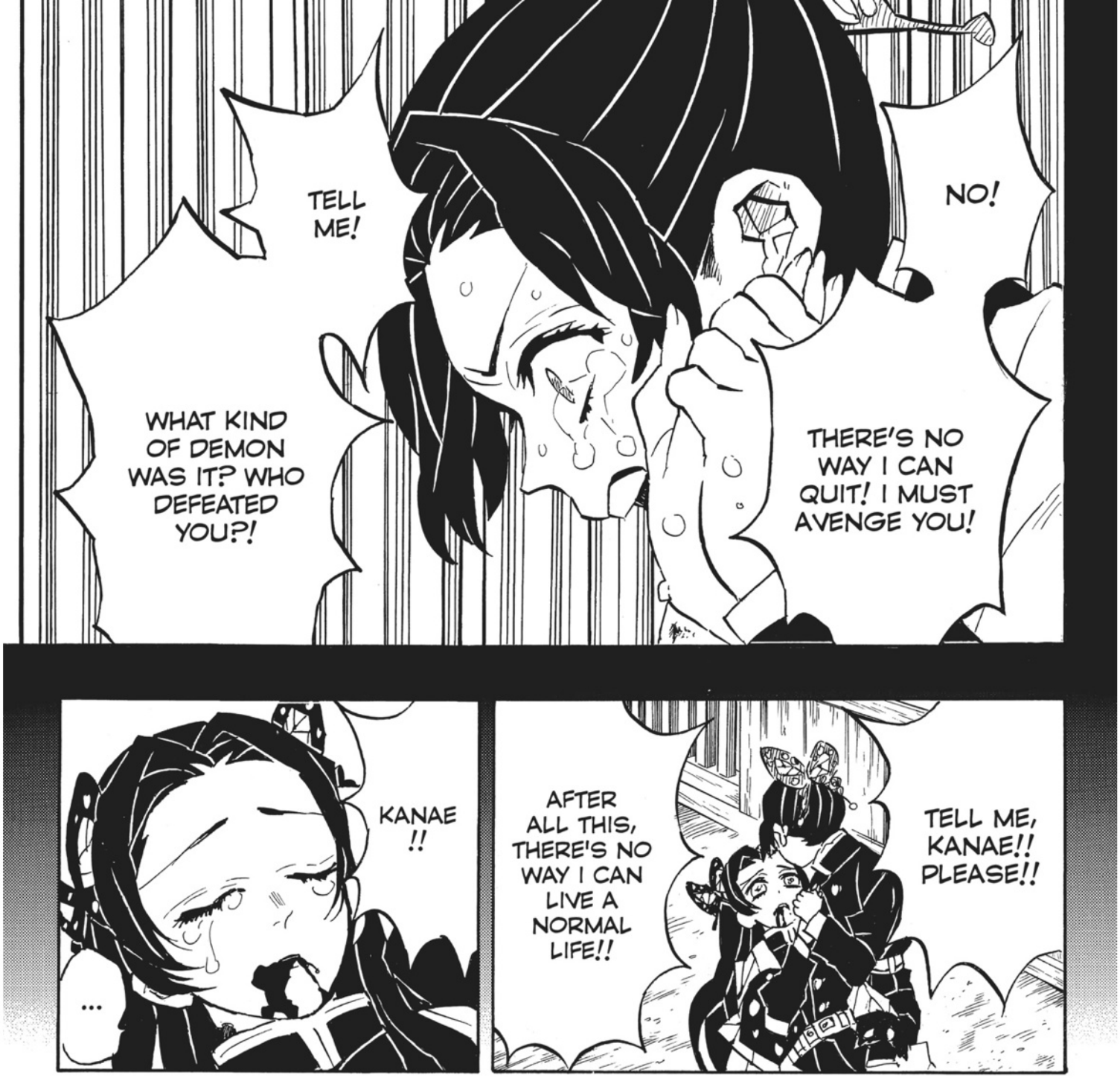
HM?


FIVE
AH...
...YOU CAME?
OH! A GIRL!
YOU LOOK YOUNG AND TASTY!
I'LL HAVE TO TELL NAKIME THANK YOU LATER.

Shinobu doesn't have strong muscles when it comes to swinging her sword, so she can't cut off a demon's head. However, she is amazingly strong at pushing and thrusting, with the power to pierce rock. It's faster than the Water Breathing technique called Drop Ripple Thrust.

CHAPTER 141: VENGEANCE

SHINOBU ...
PLEASE, LEAVE THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS.
YOU'RE TRYING HARD.
YOU'RE REALLY TRYING HARD...
BUT PERHAPS YOU...
...
I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY, LIKE A NORMAL GIRL...
...AND LIVE UNTIL YOU BECOME AN OLD WOMAN.
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE ENOUGH.


NO!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN QUIT! I MUST AVENGE YOU!
TELL ME!
WHAT KIND OF DEMON WAS IT? WHO DEFEATED YOU?!
TELL ME, KANAE!! PLEASE!!
AFTER ALL THIS, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN LIVE A NORMAL LIFE!!
KANAE !!
...

IT WAS A DEMON...
...WHO LOOKED LIKE BLOOD HAD BEEN DUMPED OVER HIS HEAD.

HI THERE! NICE TO MEET YOU!
MY NAME IS DOMA.
NICE NIGHT, HUH?

HE'S GRINNING AND LAUGHING...
...AND SPEAKS CALMLY AND KINDLY.

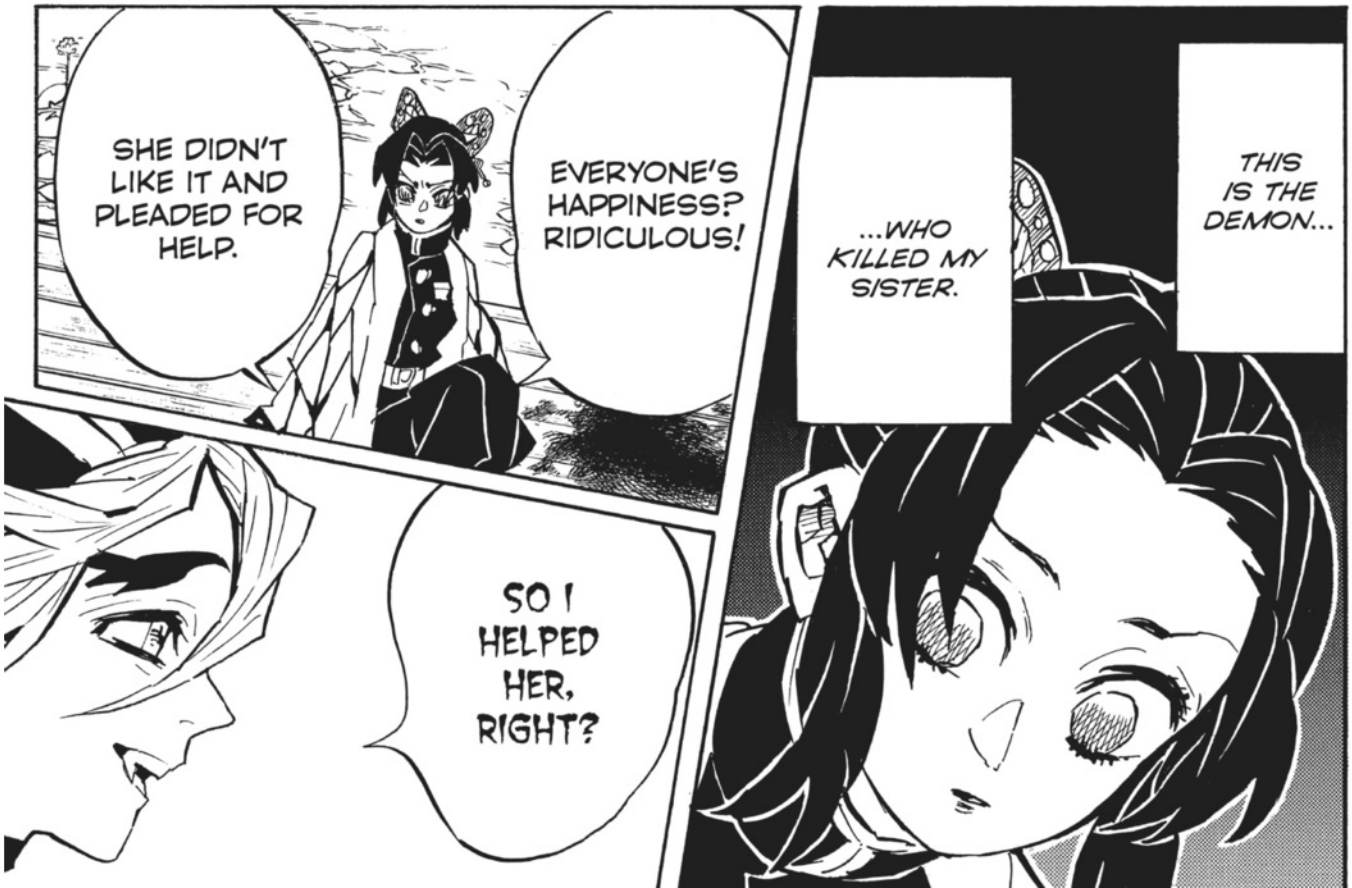
HELP ME!!
H...
HEL...
HELP ...
SHHH!
I'M TALKING, RIGHT?
HOOK

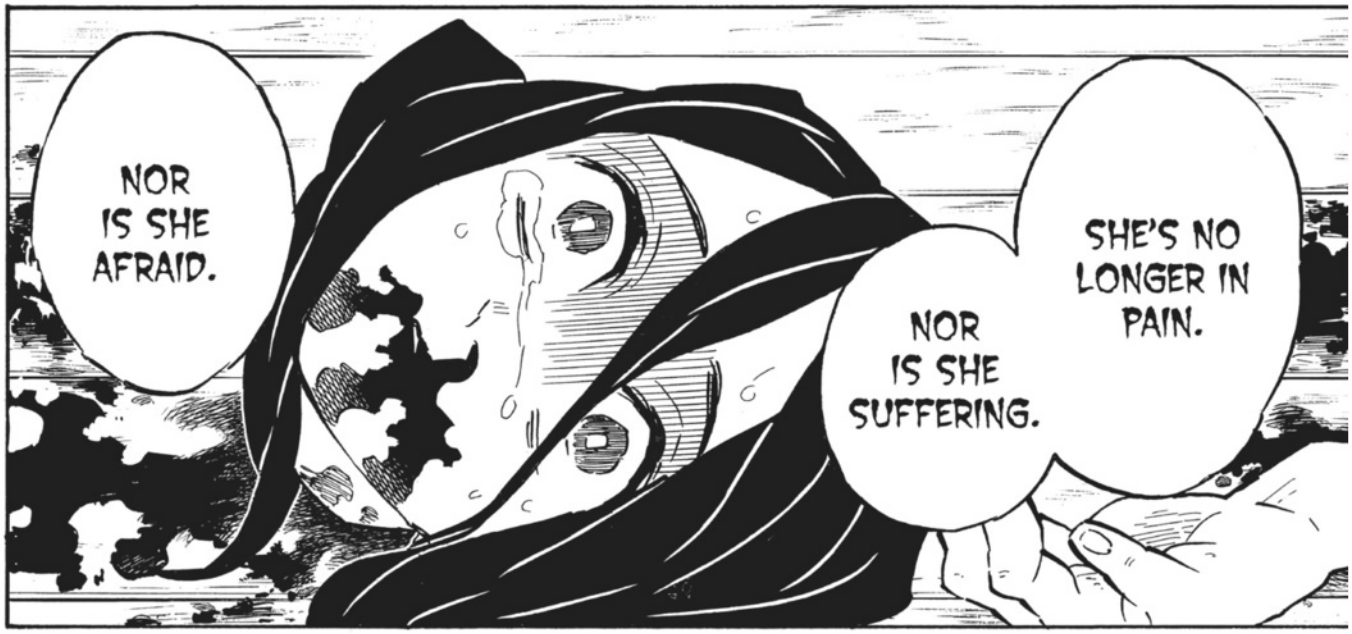
THUMP
ARE YOU OKAY?
GASP ...
GASP ...
YOU'RE FAST! ARE YOU A HASHIRA?
WOW!

KUFF
I'LL MAKE A PROPER MEAL OF HER LATER.
OH...
...DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! JUST LEAVE HER THERE.
UMF!
SPLAT

...THAT DEMON USES IS...
THE WEAPON...
...A PAIR OF...
...SHARP FANS.

I AM THE FOUNDER OF THE ETERNAL PARADISE FAITH.
MY ROLE IS TO BE HAPPY WITH ALL THE FAITHFUL.
I WILL DEVOUR HER THOROUGHLY AND LET NOTHING GO TO WASTE.
FWIK

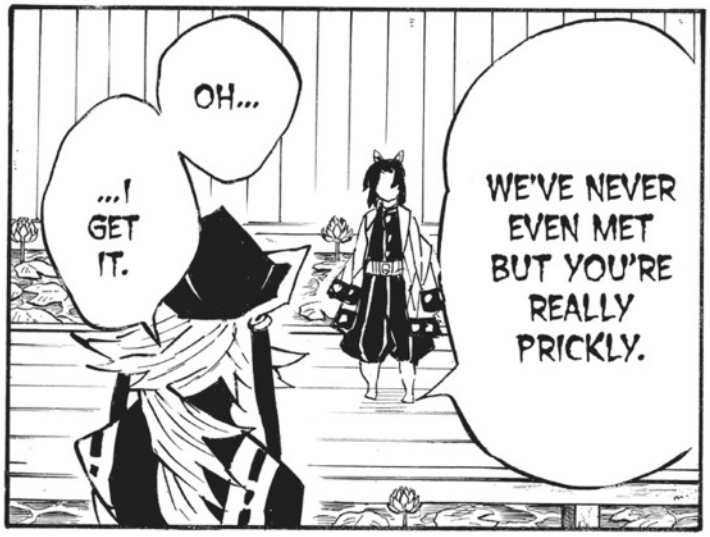

THIS IS THE DEMON...
...WHO KILLED MY SISTER.
EVERYONE'S HAPPINESS? RIDICULOUS!
SHE DIDN'T LIKE IT AND PLEADED FOR HELP.
SO I HELPED HER, RIGHT?


NOR IS SHE AFRAID.
NOR IS SHE SUFFERING.
SHE'S NO LONGER IN PAIN.

THEY LIVE ON WITH ME FOREVER.
THAT'S WHY I EAT THEM.
EVERYONE FEARS DEATH.

...AND SAVE THEM, LEADING THEM HIGHER.
...AND FLESH ...
... BLOOD ...
I FIRMLY TAKE THE BELIEVERS' FEELINGS...

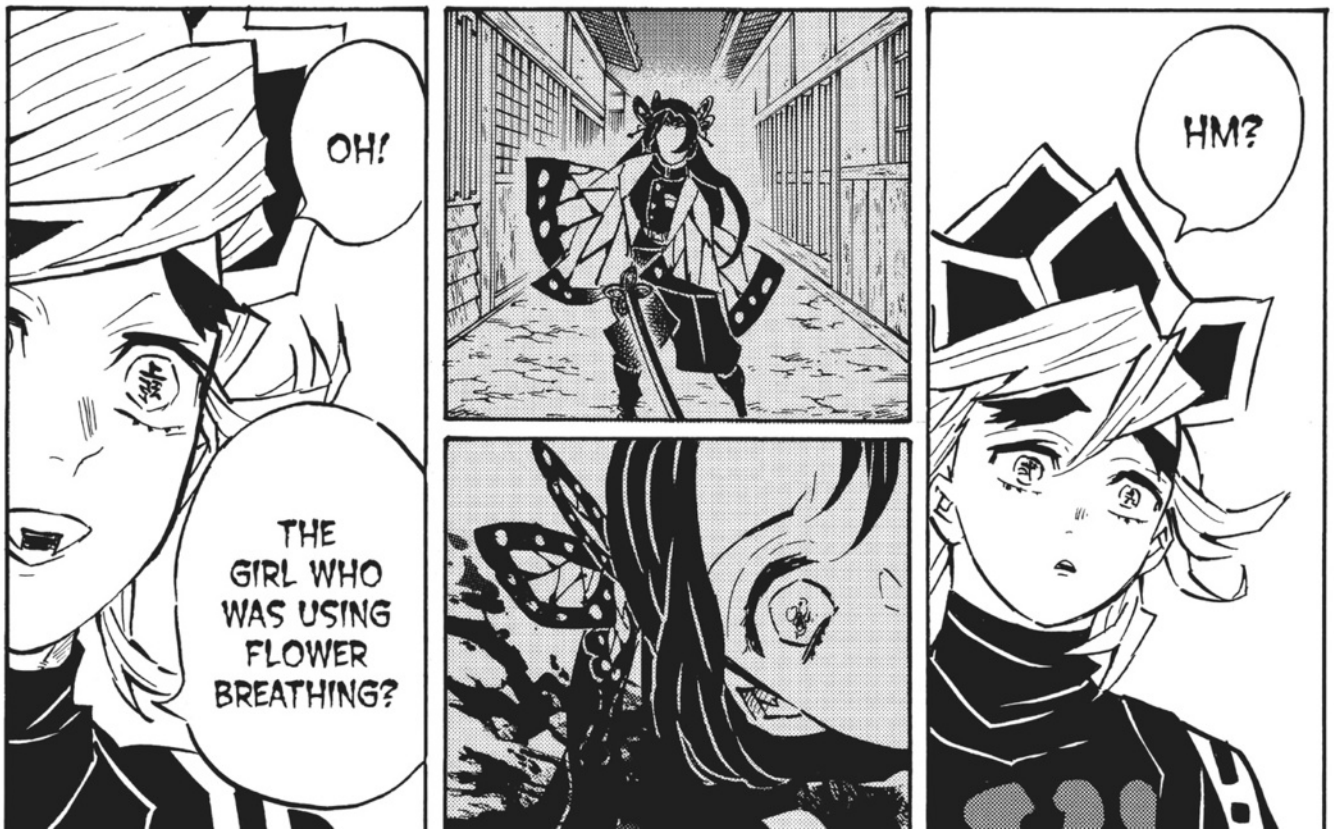
YOU'RE INSANE.
IS YOUR HEAD ALL RIGHT?
YOU REALLY MAKE ME SICK.


OH...
...! GET IT.
WE'VE NEVER EVEN MET BUT YOU'RE REALLY PRICKLY.

HUUUH?

BUT I'LL LISTEN TO YOU. YOU CAN TELL ME.
SOMETHING PAINFUL MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU.
POOR YOU.

DO YOU REMEMBER SEEING THIS *HAORI* COAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "PAINFUL"?!
YOU KILLED MY SISTER!


OH!
THE GIRL WHO WAS USING FLOWER BREATHING?
HM?

I REALLY DID WANT TO FINISH...
I COULDN'T FINISH EATING HER BECAUSE THE SUN CAME UP. I REMEMBER.
SHE WAS KIND AND CUTE.
...HER.
SHAK

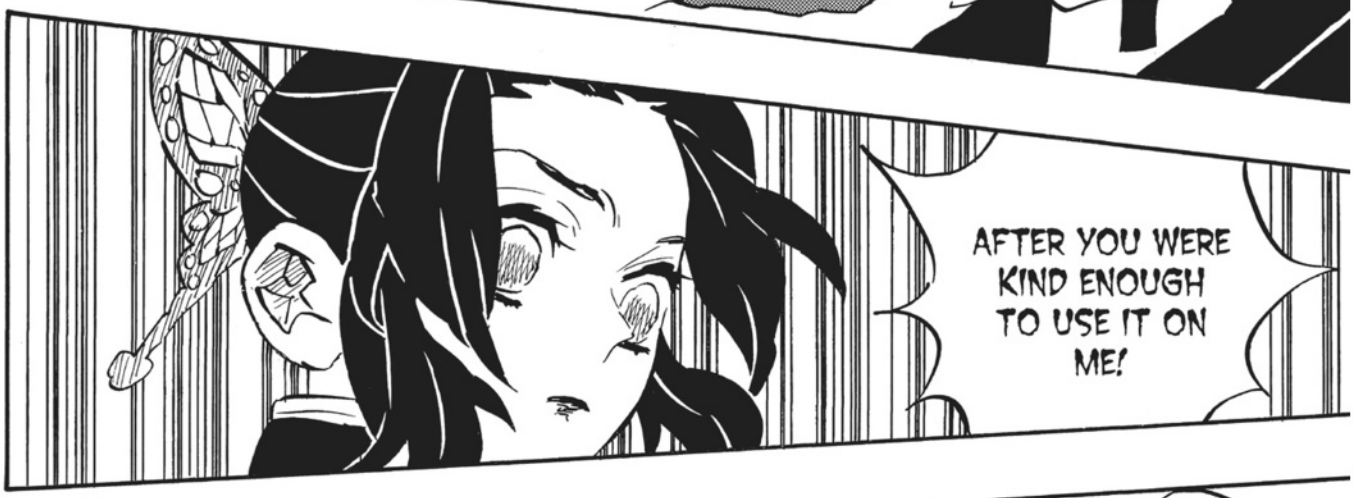
INSECT BREATHING
TRUE FLUTTER!
WHOOPS!
SPURT
DANCE OF THE BEE STING:
I COULDN'T STOP IT WITH MY HAND.
AN AMAZING THRUST!
BLOOD DEMON ART
FROZEN LOTUS!

IT'S COLD!!
KRIK
KRAK!
AIR SO COLD IT FEELS LIKE MY LUNGS WILL BURST!
HMM...
CRAK
KRIK
YOU'RE FAST. VERY FAST!
BUT SO PATHETIC.
TAP
TAP
THRUST TECHNIQUES CAN'T KILL DEMONS.
THE HEAD. YOU REALLY DO HAVE TO SEVER THE HEAD.
A THRUST CAN'T KILL, BUT WHAT ABOUT POISON?
SKRK
KCHK

UNGH!
I'LL SOON KNOW IF THIS POISON WILL WORK...
...ON AN UPPER-RANK KIZUKI.
PLEASE...
KANAE...

SPEED UP
GAH!
THIS IS...
...STRONGER THAN THE POISON USED ON RUI'S MOUNTAIN.
I KNEW IT. THEY WERE SHARING INFORMATION.
POISON IS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD...
THE COMPOUND CHANGES...
...FOR EACH DEMON!
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID TOO!
KOFF
NGH...

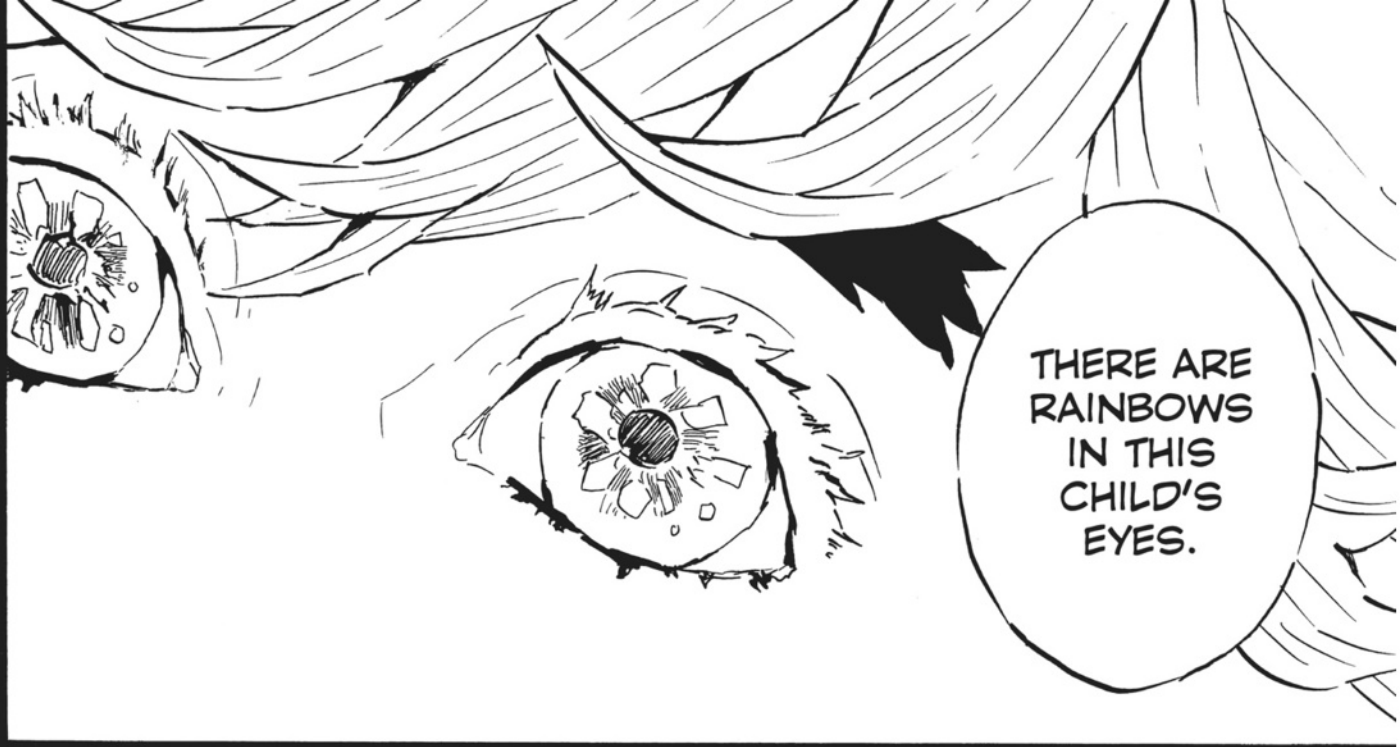
HMM?
THE POISON...
SEEMS LIKE I WAS ABLE TO BREAK IT DOWN!
SORRY!

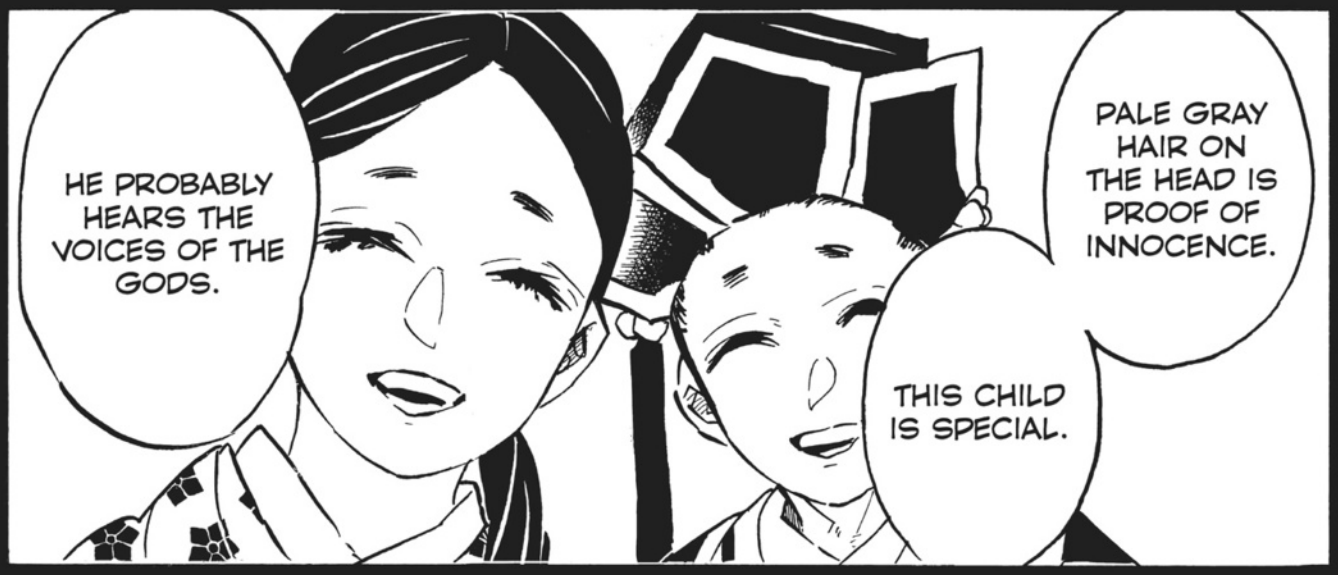

AFTER YOU WERE KIND ENOUGH TO USE IT ON ME!

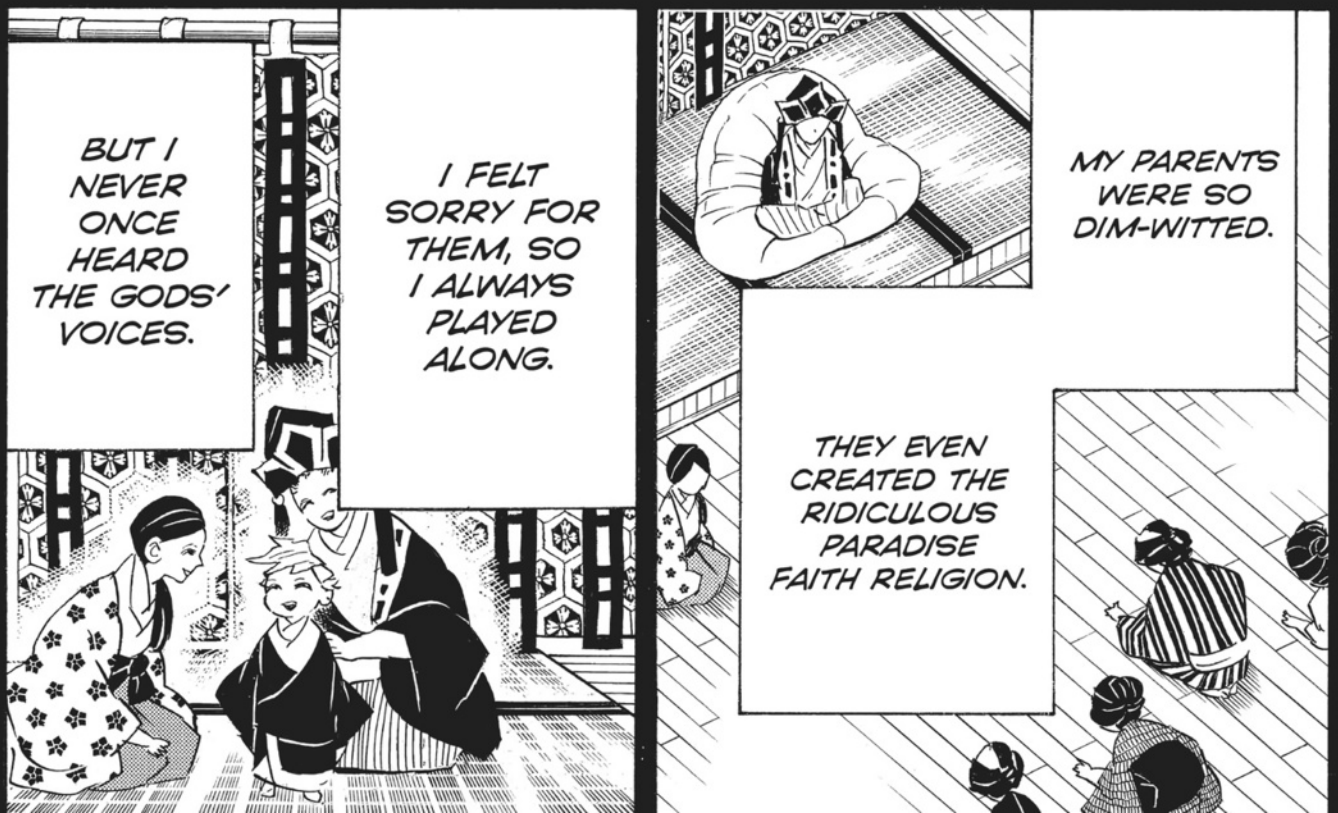
IS THAT WHERE THE COMPOUND CHANGES?
WHEN YOU SHEATHE IT, THE SOUND IS PECULIAR.
THAT KATANA...

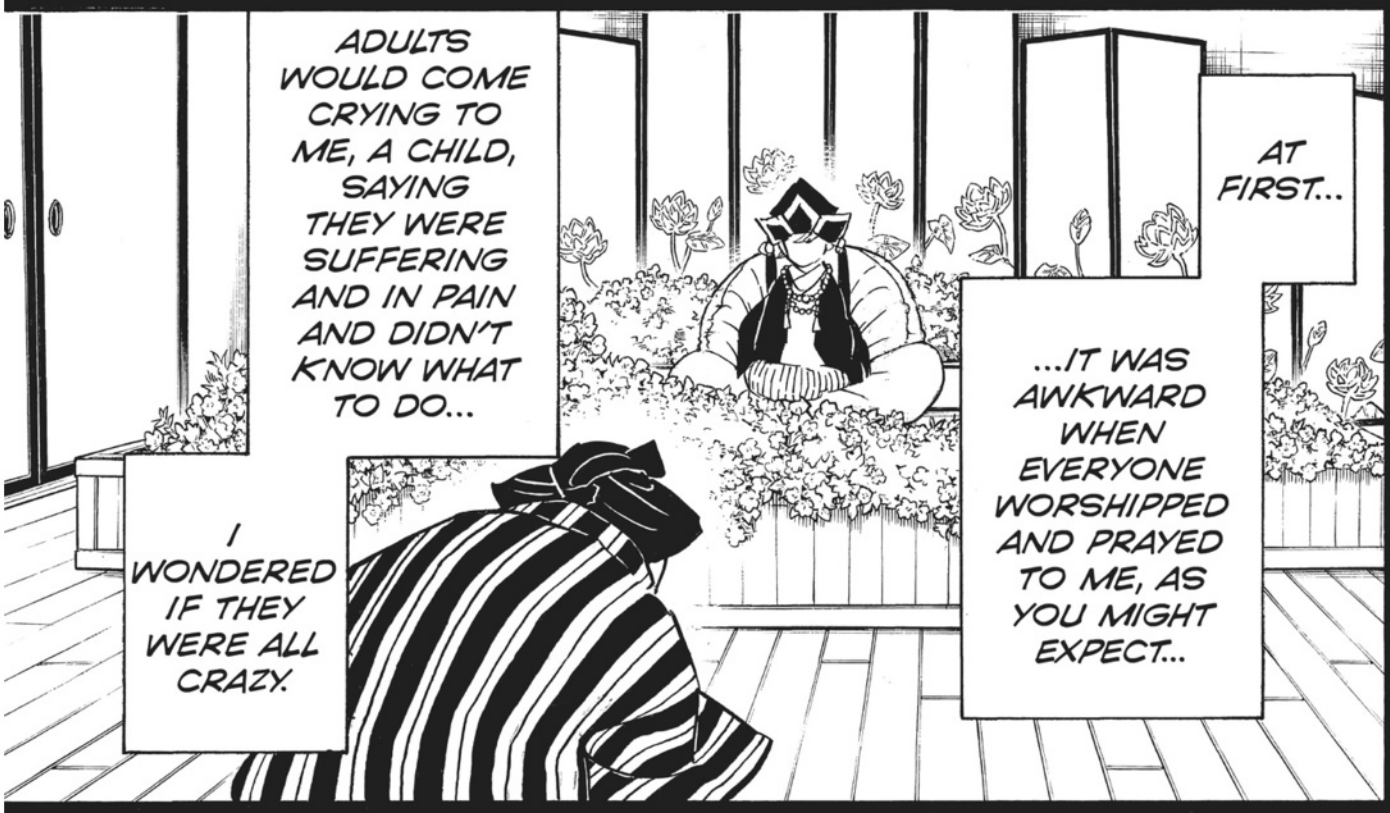
DO YOU THINK THE NEXT COMPOUND WILL WORK? LET'S TRY!
WELL! THIS IS FUN!!
GETTING POISONED IS INTERESTING! I COULD MAKE A HABIT OF IT!
THE END
I'VE ANTICIPATED EVERYTHING SO FAR!
AFTER ALL...
ALL RIGHT. GOOD IDEA.

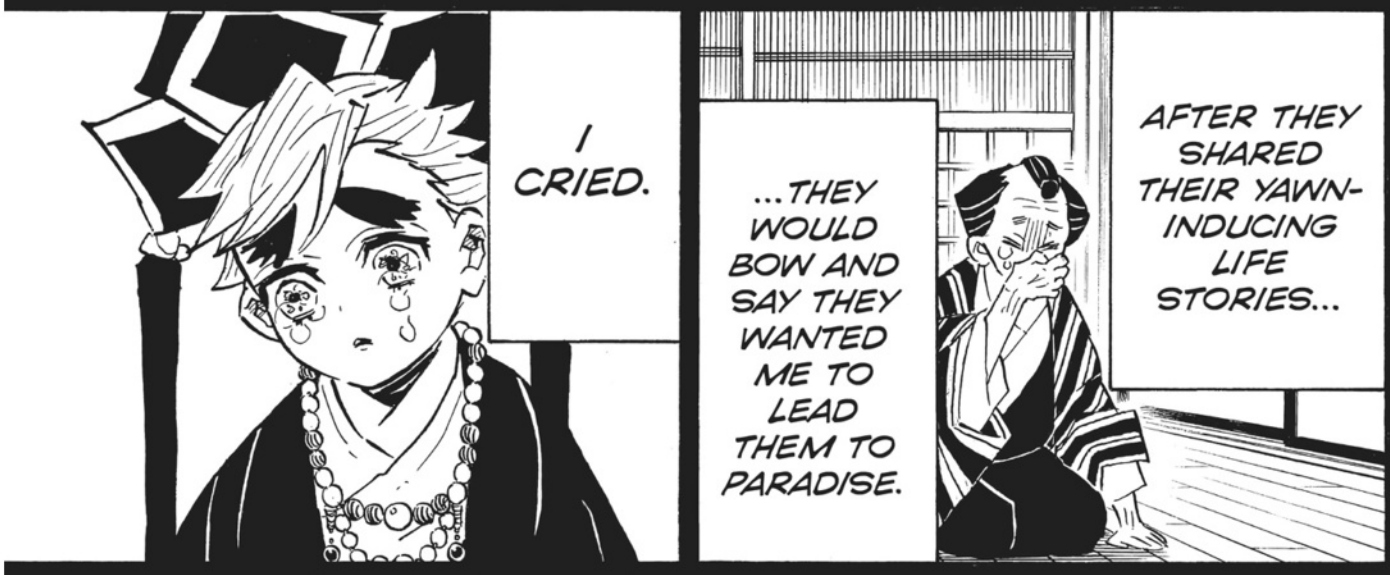
CHAPTER 142: INSECT HASHIRA, SHINOBU KOCHO


THERE ARE RAINBOWS IN THIS CHILD'S EYES.

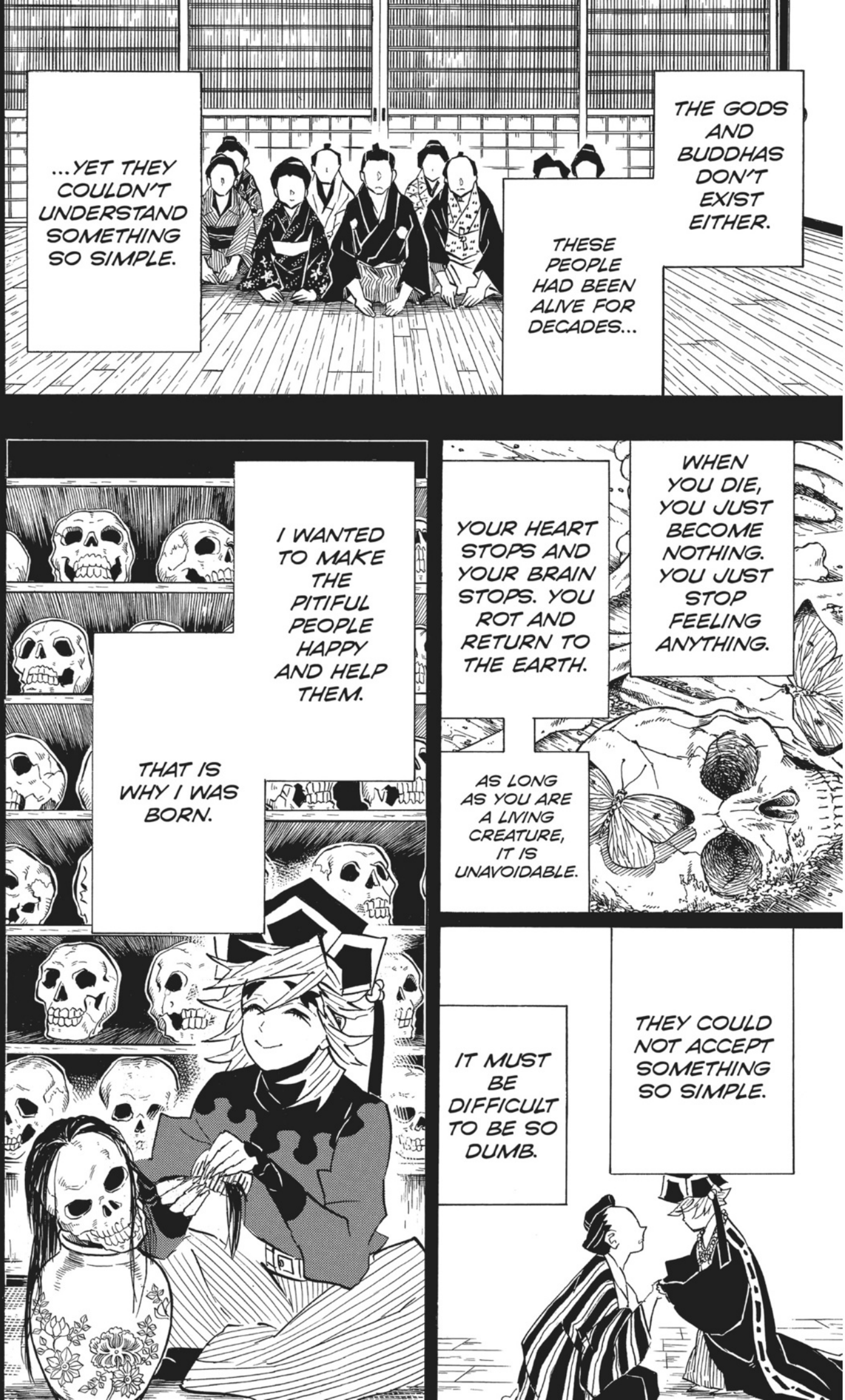

HE PROBABLY HEARS THE VOICES OF THE GODS.
PALE GRAY HAIR ON THE HEAD IS PROOF OF INNOCENCE.
THIS CHILD IS SPECIAL.


BUT I NEVER ONCE HEARD THE GODS' VOICES.
I FELT SORRY FOR THEM, SO I ALWAYS PLAYED ALONG.
MY PARENTS WERE SO DIM-WITTED.
THEY EVEN CREATED THE RIDICULOUS PARADISE FAITH RELIGION.


AT FIRST...
...IT WAS AWKWARD WHEN EVERYONE WORSHIPPED AND PRAYED TO ME, AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT...
ADULTS WOULD COME CRYING TO ME, A CHILD, SAYING THEY WERE SUFFERING AND IN PAIN AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...
I WONDERED IF THEY WERE ALL CRAZY.

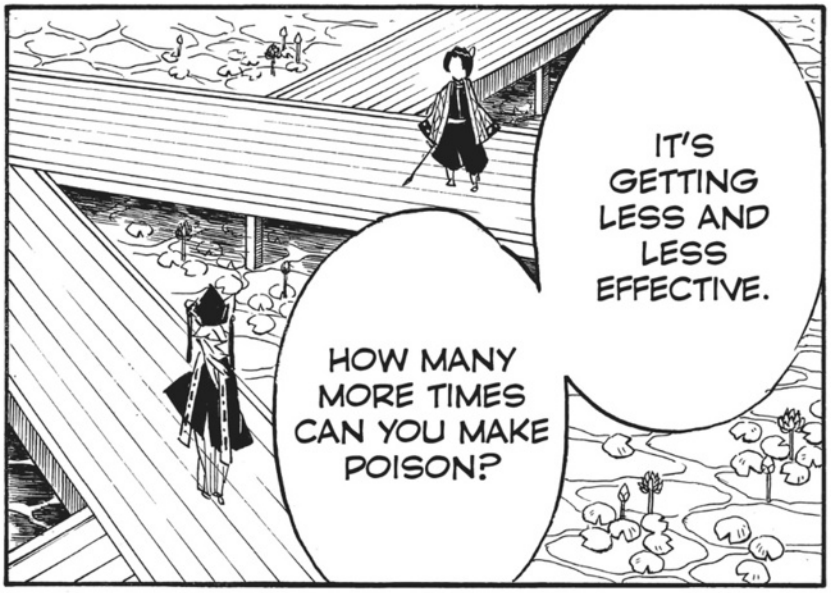

AFTER THEY SHARED THEIR YAWN-INDUCING LIFE STORIES...
...THEY WOULD BOW AND SAY THEY WANTED ME TO LEAD THEM TO PARADISE.
I CRIED.

HOW SAD...
...THAT PARADISE DOES NOT EXIST.
IT'S A FAIRY TALE THAT HUMANS CREATED WITH THEIR IMAGINATIONS.


...YET THEY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING SO SIMPLE.
THESE PEOPLE HAD BEEN ALIVE FOR DECADES...
THE GODS AND BUDDHAS DON'T EXIST EITHER.
I WANTED TO MAKE THE PITIFUL PEOPLE HAPPY AND HELP THEM.
THAT IS WHY I WAS BORN.
YOUR HEART STOPS AND YOUR BRAIN STOPS. YOU ROT AND RETURN TO THE EARTH.
WHEN YOU DIE, YOU JUST BECOME NOTHING. YOU JUST STOP FEELING ANYTHING.
AS LONG AS YOU ARE A LIVING CREATURE, IT IS UNAVOIDABLE.
IT MUST BE DIFFICULT TO BE SO DUMB.
THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT SOMETHING SO SIMPLE.

Woo
HMM...
...THAT'S THE FIFTH TIME.
AND THAT WAS NO GOOD EITHER. IT DIDN'T WORK.

OH, ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING?
YOU'RE SWEATING A LOT. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?


IT'S GETTING LESS AND LESS EFFECTIVE.
HOW MANY MORE TIMES CAN YOU MAKE POISON?

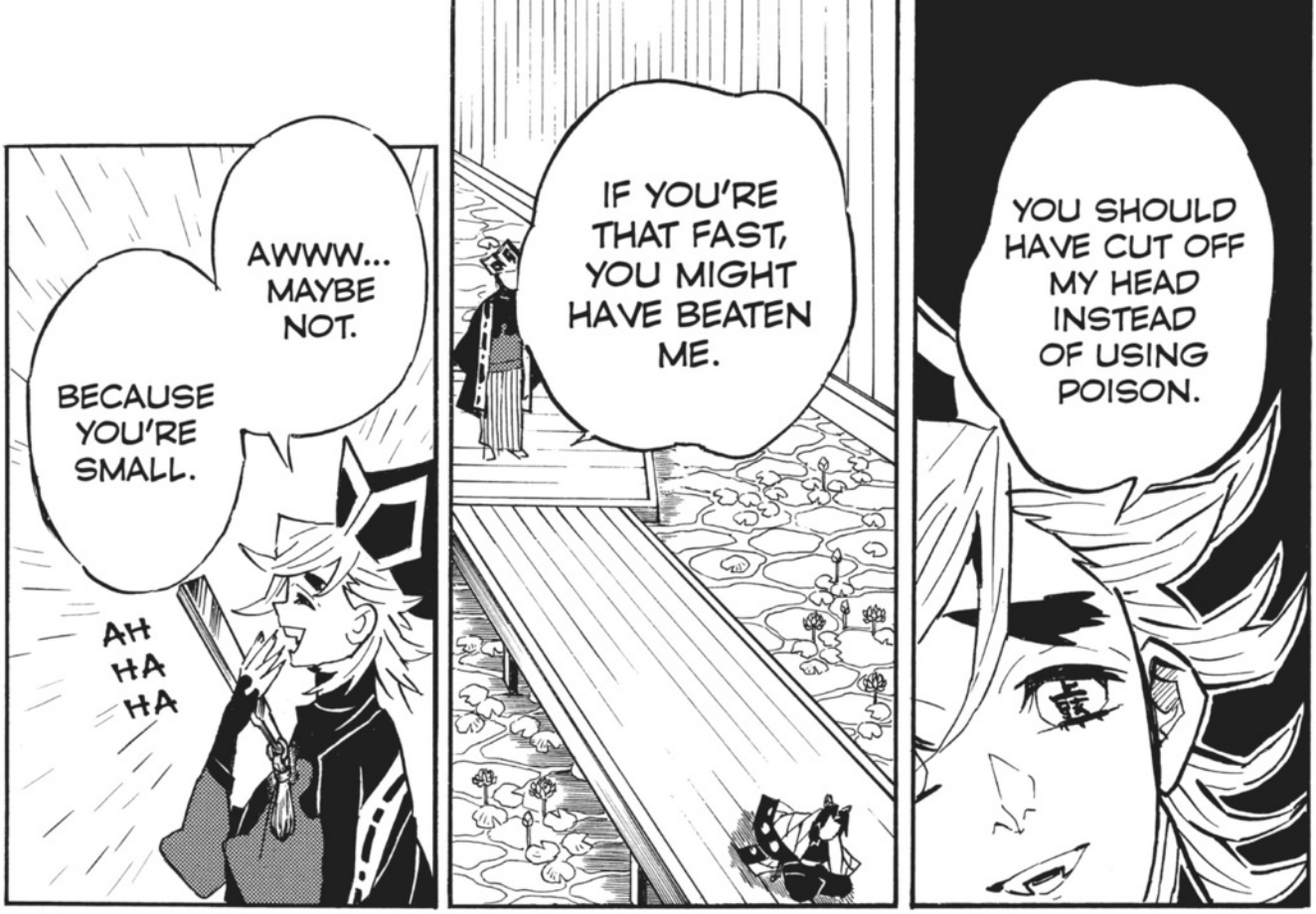
HIS SPEED IN BUILDING RESISTANCE IS ABNORMAL.
THE POISON ISN'T WORKING AT ALL.
THIS IS THE STRENGTH OF AN UPPER-RANK KIZUKI.

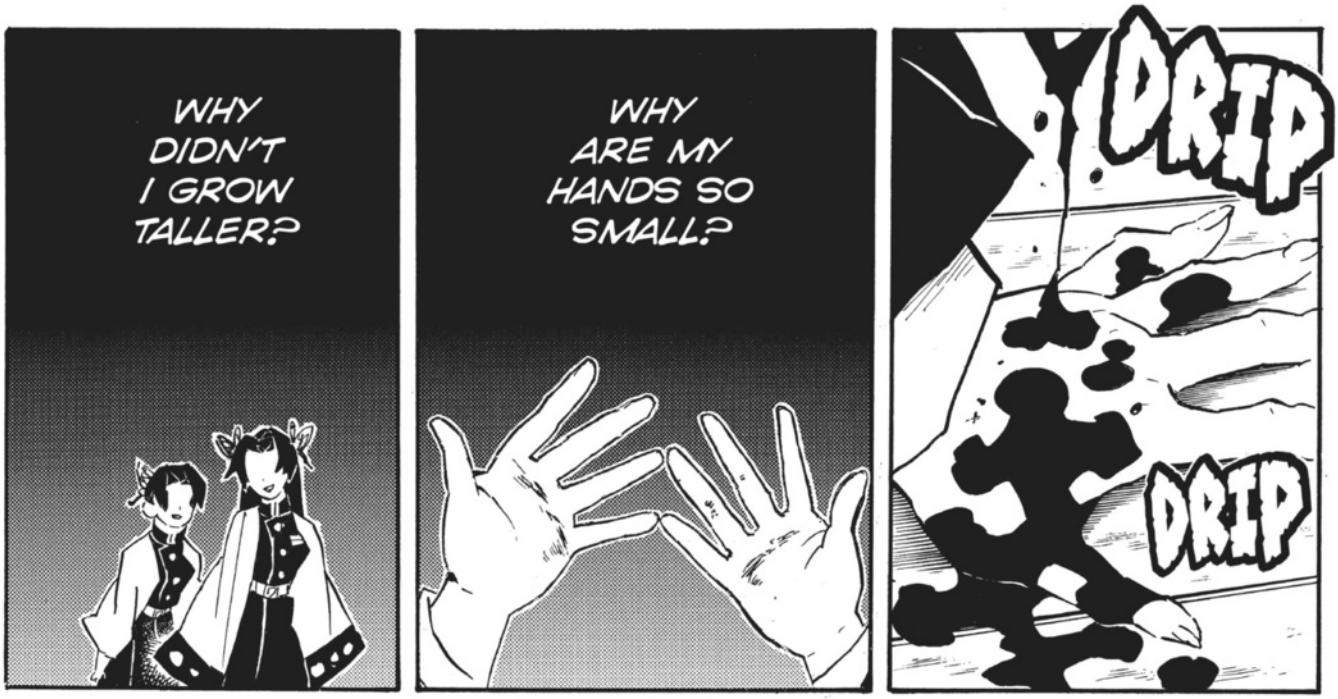
CRAK
A MOMENT AGO, MY BLOOD DEMON ART SUCKED YOUR BLOOD.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOUR LUNGS ARE DYING. HARD, HUH?
CRIK

IT TURNED YOUR FROZEN BLOOD TO MIST, AND MY FANS SCATTERED IT.
BREATHING ITSELF IS NOW DANGER-OUS FOR YOU.
I'LL USE MULTIPLE ATTACKS TO INJECT A LARGE DOSE!
SHING
INSECT BREATHING
DANCE OF THE DRAGON-FLY!

COM-
POUND
EYE
HEXAGON!
SPURT
YOU REALLY ARE FAST!
MAYBE THE FASTEST HASHIRA I'VE MET SO FAR!

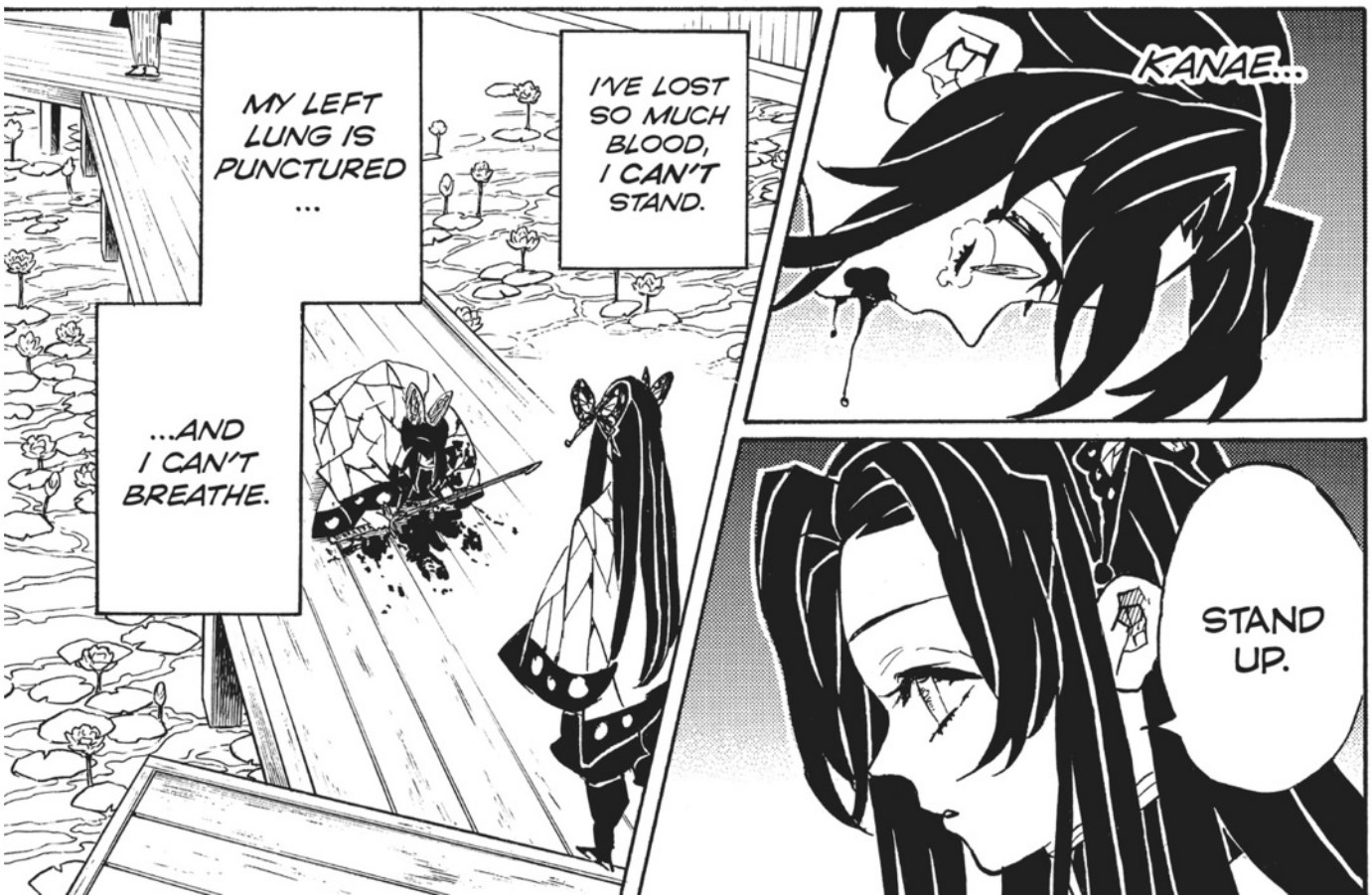
FU
FUMP
HE...
...CUT ME?!

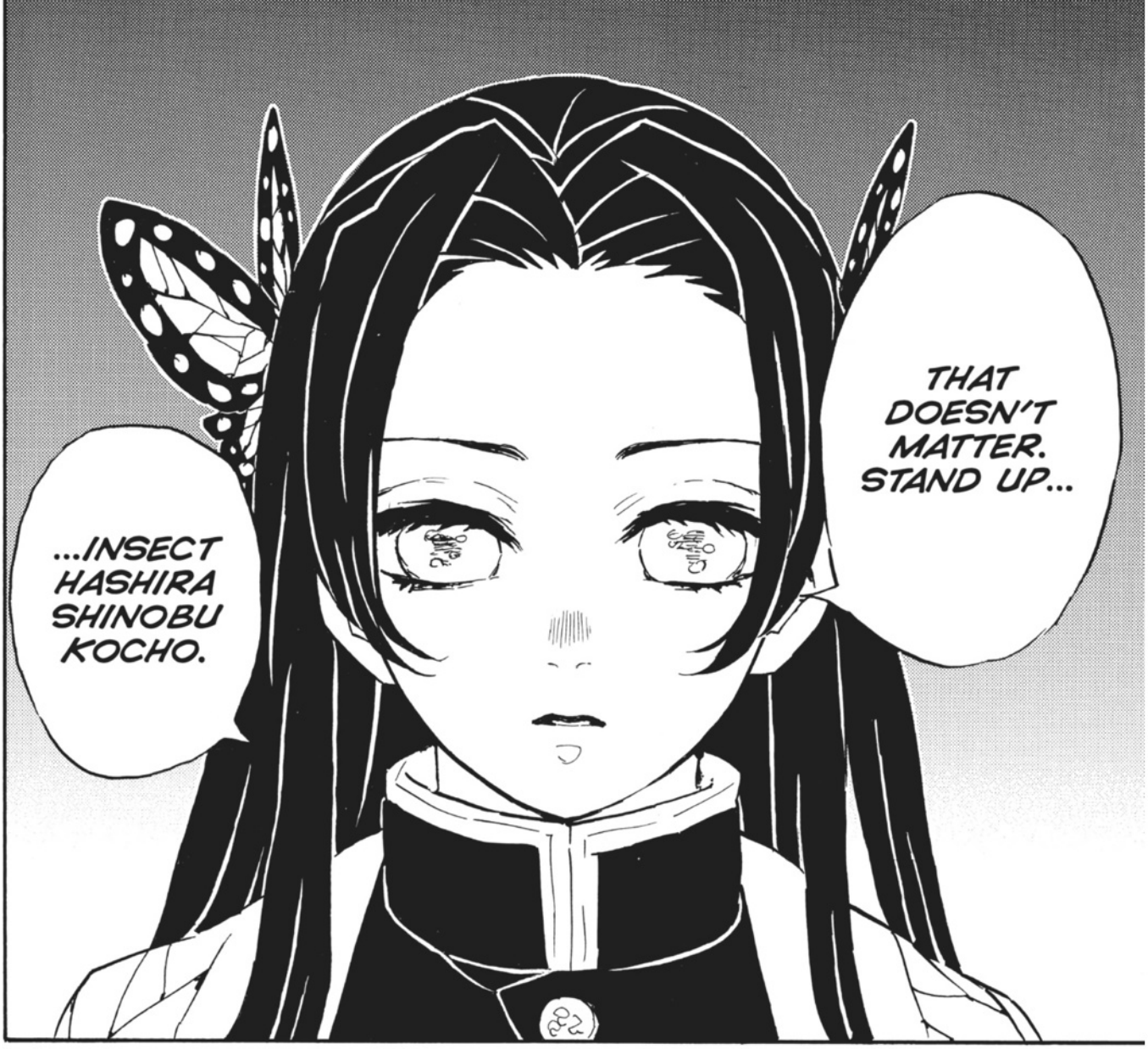

YOU SHOULD HAVE CUT OFF MY HEAD INSTEAD OF USING POISON.
IF YOU'RE THAT FAST, YOU MIGHT HAVE BEATEN ME.
AWWW... MAYBE NOT.
BECAUSE YOU'RE SMALL.
AH HA HA

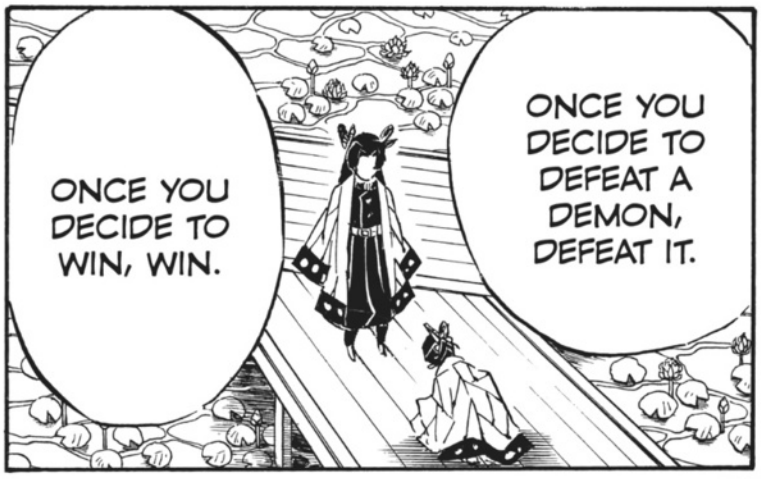

WHY DIDN'T I GROW TALLER?
WHY ARE MY HANDS SO SMALL?
DRIP
DRIP

IF I HAD BEEN JUST A LITTLE TALLER...
...I MIGHT HAVE TAKEN THE DEMON'S HEAD AND DEFEATED HIM.
ARMS ...
AND LEGS...
THE LONGER THEY ARE, THE MORE MUSCLE THEY HAVE...
...WHICH IS AN ADVAN-TAGE, BUT...
KANAE WAS DELICATE, EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS TALLER THAN ME.
I ENVY HIME-JIMA.
WHEN HE COMES TO THE RESCUE, EVERYONE BREATHES EASY.
I KNOW ...
...WHAT SHE WAS GOING TO SAY.
"BUT PERHAPS YOU...
...WILL LOSE TO THAT DEMON."
SHE STARTED TO SAY THAT BUT STOPPED.

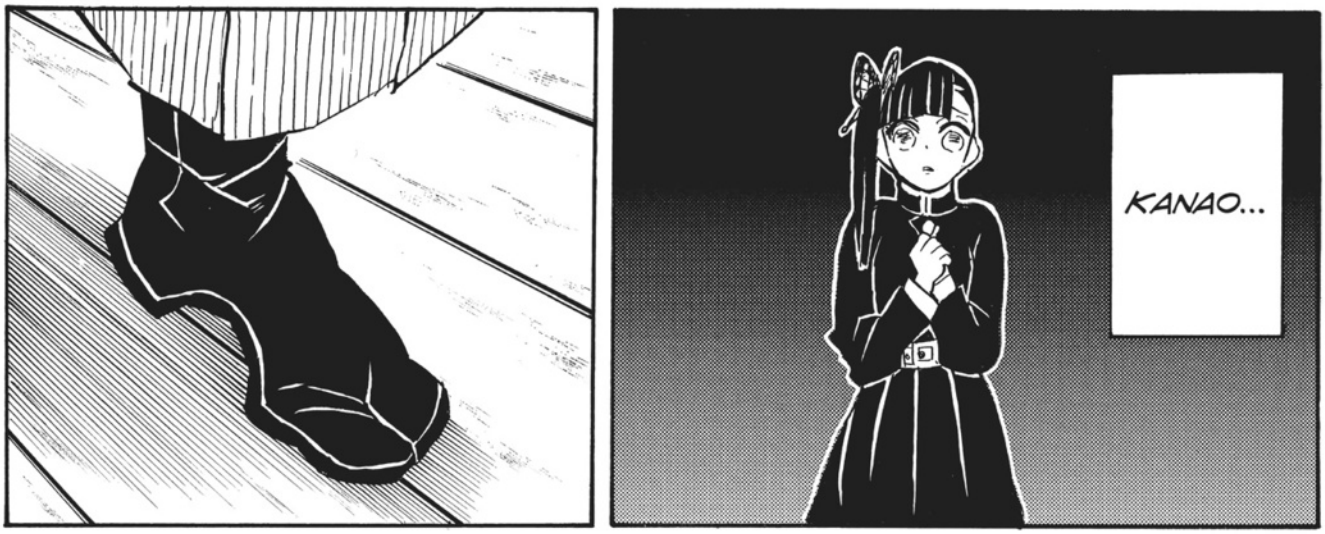
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER. I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO CRY.


MY LEFT LUNG IS PUNCTURED ...
I'VE LOST SO MUCH BLOOD, I CAN'T STAND.
...AND I CAN'T BREATHE.
KANAE...
STAND UP.


THAT DOESN'T MATTER. STAND UP...
...INSECT HASHIRA SHINOBU KOCHO.

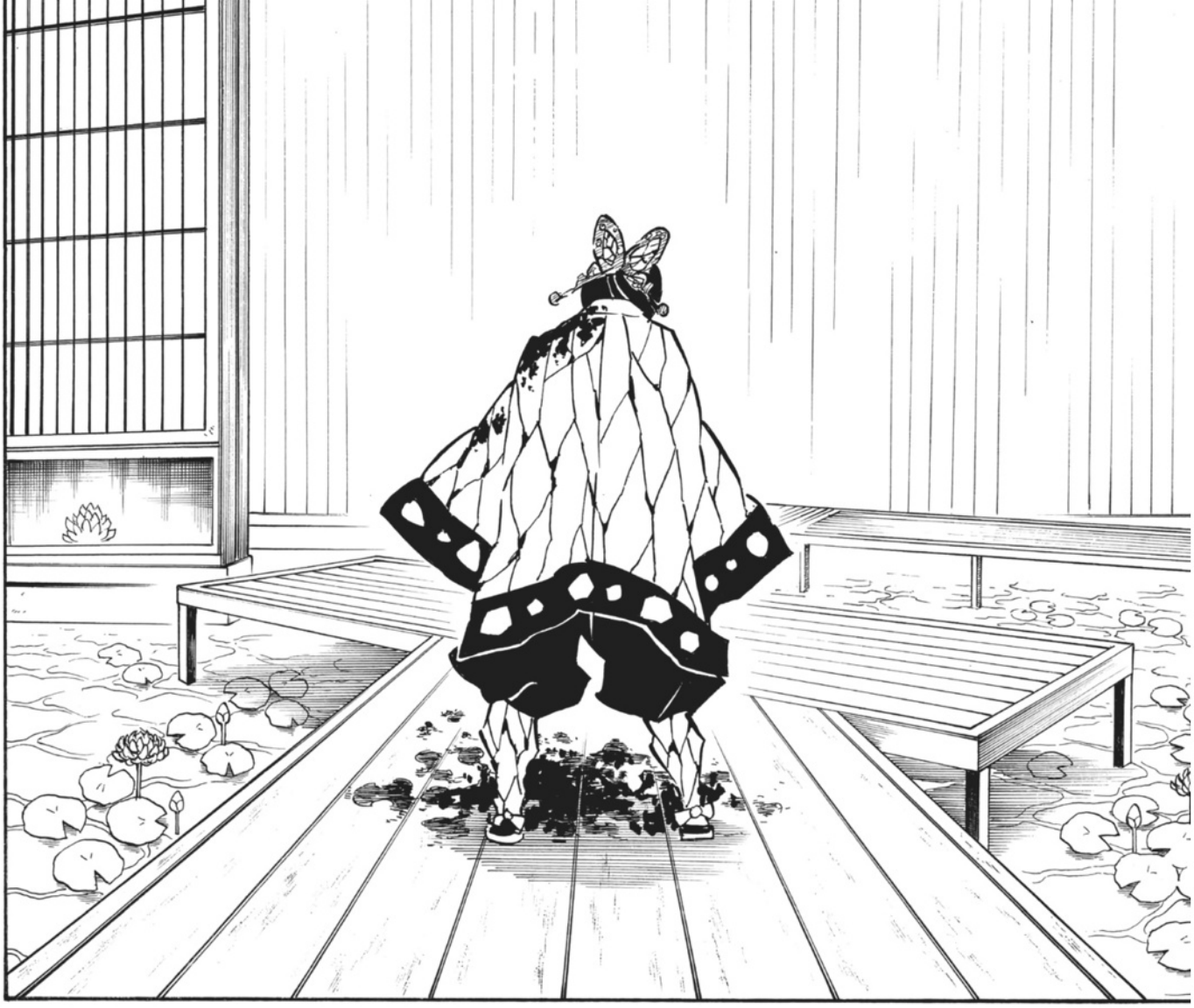

ONCE YOU DECIDE TO WIN, WIN.
ONCE YOU DECIDE TO DEFEAT A DEMON, DEFEAT IT.

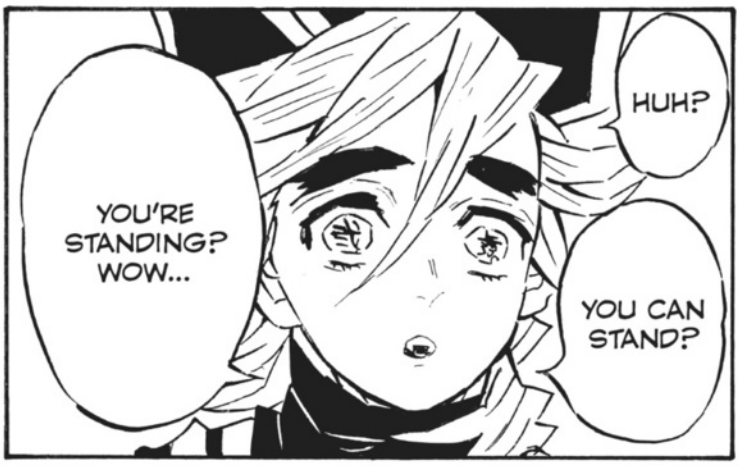
...MADE THAT PROMISE WITH KANAO AND ME, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU...
WIN, WHATEVER THE COST.

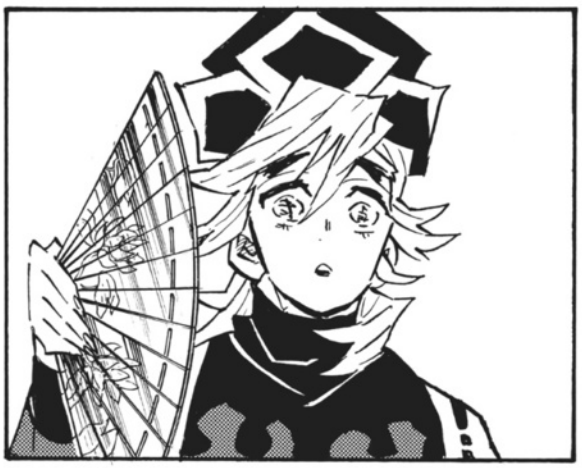

KANAO...

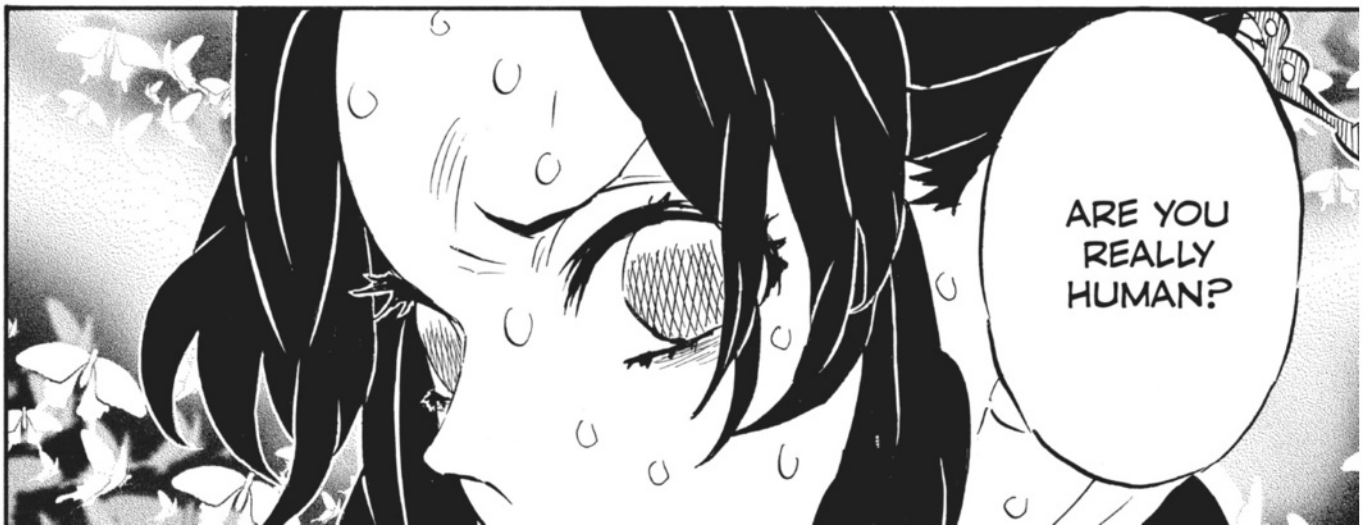
KRFAK
KRFAK
SORRY, SORRY. IT WASN'T A THOROUGH CUT, SO YOU'RE SUFFERING.
TMP
TMP

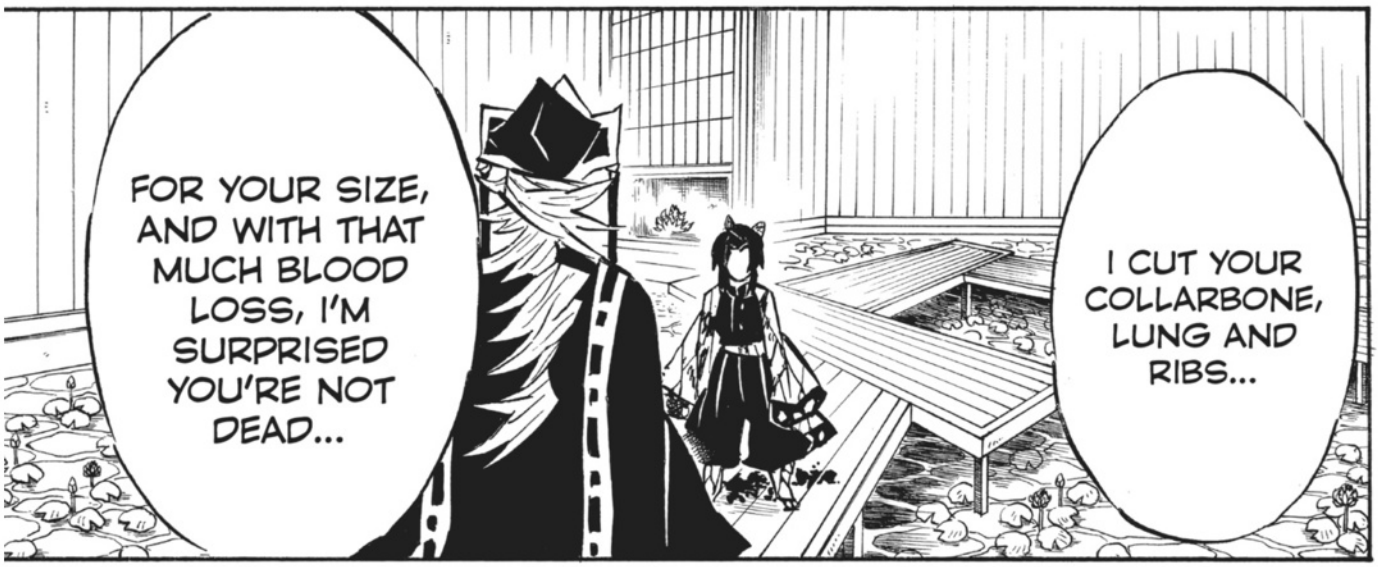
SHINOBU, YOU CAN DO THIS.
SO DO YOUR BEST.

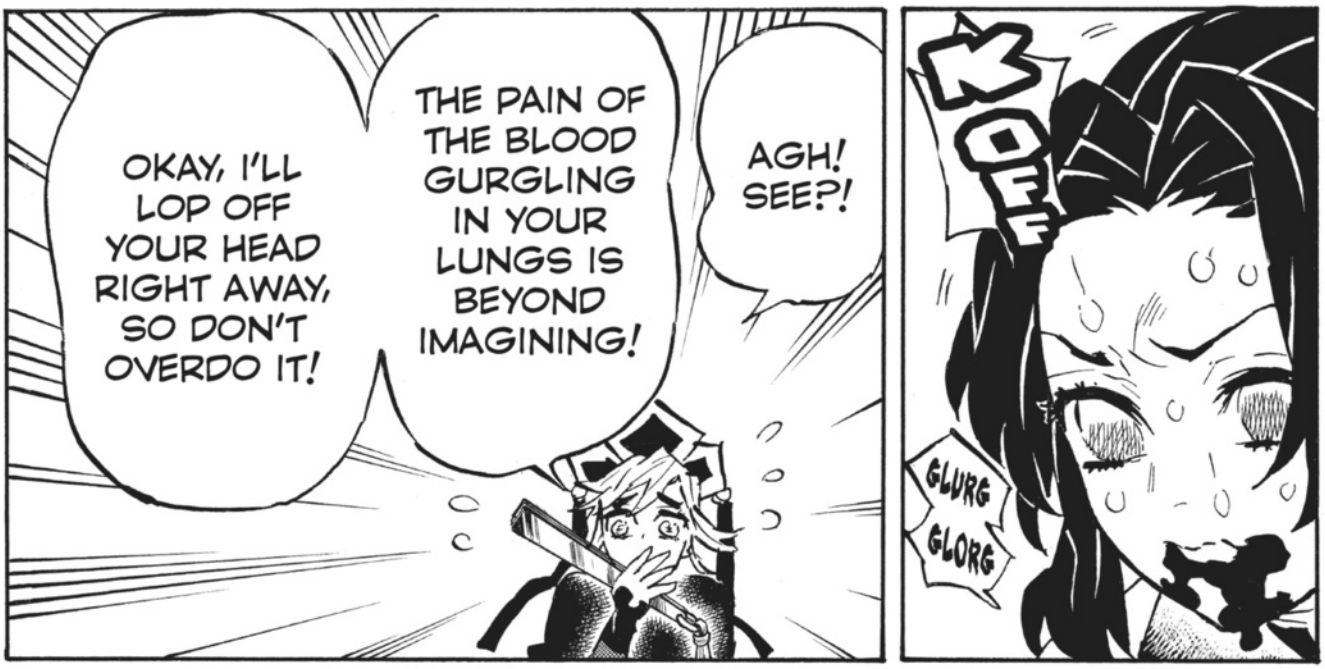


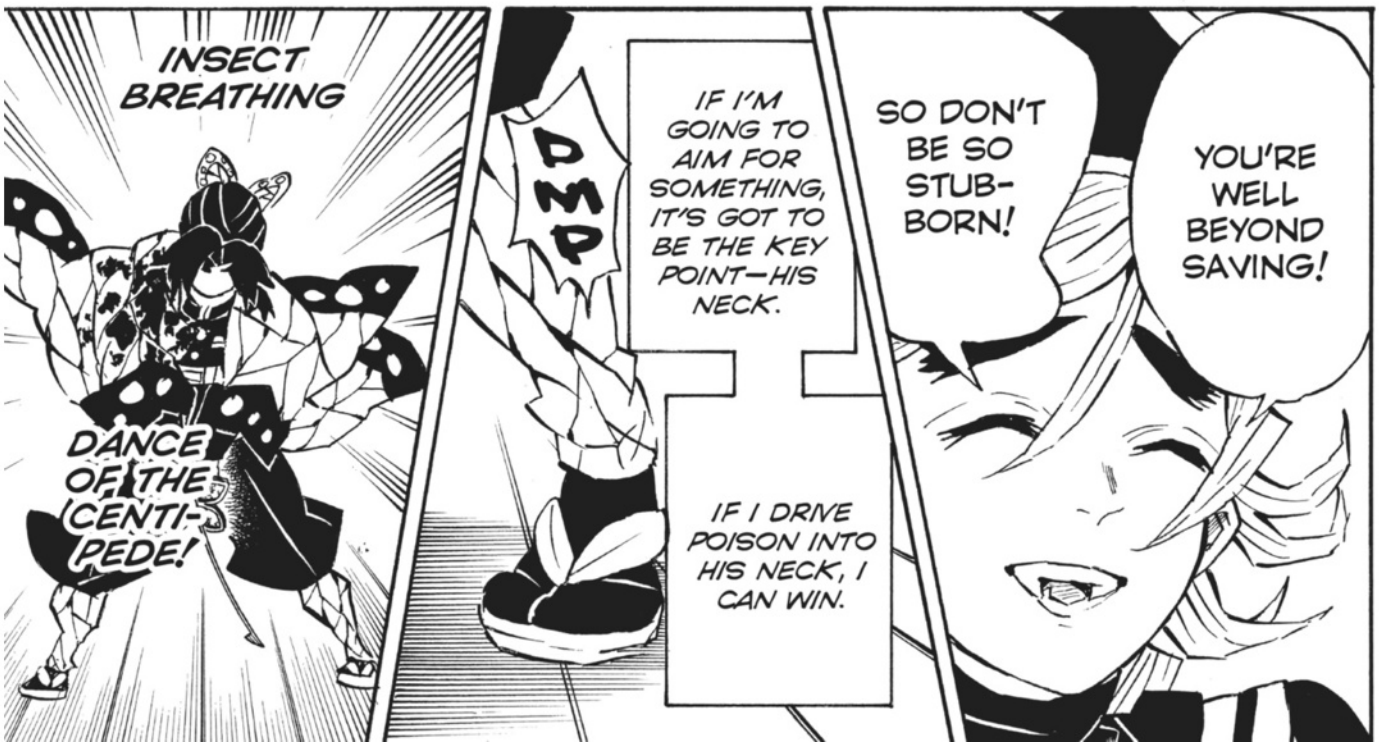

HUH?
YOU CAN STAND?
YOU'RE STANDING? WOW...




ARE YOU REALLY HUMAN?


FOR YOUR SIZE, AND WITH THAT MUCH BLOOD LOSS, I'M SURPRISED YOU'RE NOT DEAD...
I CUT YOUR COLLARBONE, LUNG AND RIBS...


OKAY, I'LL LOP OFF YOUR HEAD RIGHT AWAY, SO DON'T OVERDO IT!
THE PAIN OF THE BLOOD GURGLING IN YOUR LUNGS IS BEYOND IMAGINING!
AGH! SEE?!
KOFF
GLURG
GLORG


INSECT BREATHING
DANCE OF THE CENTI-PEDE!
DMP
IF I'M GOING TO AIM FOR SOMETHING, IT'S GOT TO BE THE KEY POINT—HIS NECK.
IF I DRIVE POISON INTO HIS NECK, I CAN WIN.
SO DON'T BE SO STUB-BORN!
YOU'RE WELL BEYOND SAVING!

HUNDRED-LEGGED
ZIGZAG!
IN AN ADVANCE THAT COULD SUNDER A BRIDGE!
SHE'S WEAVING AROUND IN-ALL DIRECTIONS!

I CAN'T PREDICT HER ATTACK!
SHE'S FAST!!
WALK

SHE'S COMING IN LOW!!

VOLUME 16—UNDYING (THE END)